

Arafat arrives in Romania

VIENNA (R) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat arrived in Bucharest Wednesday at the invitation of Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu, the official Agerpress news agency reported. The agency did not disclose the purpose or length of the visit, which was not publicly announced in advance and is Mr. Arafat's third known trip to Romania in the past six months. He last visited Bucharest in June, when diplomats said he was seeking aid from the Soviet Bloc in his conflict with PLO dissidents challenging his leadership. He was also in the region in April on visits to Romania, Hungary, Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia. Diplomats said the present visit would probably include talks on the United Nations Conference in Geneva on Palestinian rights, which has been boycotted by the United States and Israel and treated lightly by most West European countries.

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Hussein sends message to Fahd

RIYADH (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein has sent a message to King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia dealing with the current situation in Lebanon. The message was delivered in Riyadh by Court Minister Amer Khamash Tuesday.

Jordan, China discuss health cooperation

AMMAN (Petra) — China's Charge d'Affaires in Amman discussed with Health Minister Zuhair Malhas Wednesday Jordanian-Chinese cooperation in health affairs. They also discussed a visit to Jordan by a Chinese medical team, expected to take place in December. The team will be looking into Jordanian medical and health services, a Health Ministry spokesman said.

Committee organises rally in support of Iraq

AMMAN (Petra) — A committee for the support of the Iraqi people organised a public rally at the Professional Association Complex in Amman Wednesday to display support for Iraq in its war with Iran which has now entered its fourth year. Speakers who included public figures like Dr. Rifat Odeh, the committee chairman and Amin Shuqair, member of the National Consultative Council paid tribute to the Iraqi people and armed forces in their fight against Iranian ambitions and aggression on the Arab Nation. They also voiced total support for His Majesty King Hussein for his support and backing of Iraq.

Omani fighters intercept Soviet plane

BAHRAIN (R) — A Soviet maritime surveillance plane was intercepted recently by Omani fighters while flying close to Omani airspace, the official Oman Press Agency reported Wednesday. The Omani aircraft were able to photograph the Soviet plane, an Ilyushin-28, the agency said, quoting the Oman Daily Observer newspaper which published pictures of the Soviet plane and the interceptors.

Egypt rules out top-level visit to Israel

CAIRO (R) — Egypt has ruled out top-level visits to Israel in the near future, saying relations between the Middle Eastern neighbours were in a state of "cold peace". Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Boutros Boutros Ghali, said Wednesday that Egyptian ministers would not return visits made last month by Israeli Energy Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and ex-Defence Minister Ezer Weizman.

Shamir indicates Israel will stay out of Shouf

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir indicated Wednesday that Israel would stay out of fighting between Syrian-backed Druze and right-wing Christian militiamen in Lebanon's Shouf Mountains.

French colonel killed in Beirut shelling as fighting worsens French jets said attack Druze position in hill

BEIRUT (R) — French forces launched super-Entendard fighter-bombers from the aircraft carrier Foch Wednesday and there were unconfirmed reports that they knocked out a Druze militia position in the hills behind Beirut.

The planes were launched after a French paratroop colonel was killed and a number of other French soldiers wounded in intensive shelling of populated areas of west Beirut, including the French ambassador's residence, during the morning.

Lebanon's Falangist radio said French planes had knocked out a position of the Syrian-backed Druze militia near the town of Alei, 15 kilometres from the capital.

Residents in the hills said they saw one fighter plane fly over a hilltop near Alei. Immediately afterwards, there was a loud explosion and smoke billowed for hundreds of feet into the air, they added.

Such blasts are common during the daily shelling in the hills but no artillery had been heard immediately before the incident, the residents said.

The residents, in a village south-east of Beirut, said the explosion occurred at 11.47 a.m. (1947 GMT).

Foreign correspondents at the Lebanese Presidential Palace at Baabda, in the hills about halfway between Alei and the city, saw two Super-Entendard aircraft fly past in the direction of Alei at around the same time.

U.S. F-14 fighter planes screamed low over west Beirut late Wednesday afternoon, flying south then inland towards the mountains.

Local residents saw the aircraft and Beirut Radio confirmed they were fighters launched from the aircraft carrier Eisenhower, off Beirut.

There was no indication as to the nature of their mission.

In Paris, French Defence Minister Charles Hernu had said in a television interview Wednesday morning that Super-Entendards had been launched from the Foch to locate the artillery batteries which had fired on Beirut.

He warned that if the fire did not cease, "we will destroy the batteries."

The Falangist radio said the French planes had knocked out a position of the main Druze political grouping, the Syrian-backed Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) of Walid Jumblat, at Douhour Al Abadiyeh, close to Alei.

Douhour Al Abadiyeh, controlled by the well-armed PSP militia, is a few kilometres from the mountain front line of Syrian troops.

If the reports were confirmed, it would be the first time the four-nation peace-keeping force —

comprising troops from France, the U.S., Italy and Britain — had used warplanes against the guns which have regularly pounded Beirut.

The U.S. also has fighter planes aboard the aircraft carrier Eisenhower off the coast.

U.S. Marines onshore, based at Beirut Airport, have fired a few artillery salvos at militia positions after shells or rockets landed on Marines' positions.

The French launched their warplanes after several hours of intensive shelling of heavily-populated areas of Beirut, mainly the Muslim west but including areas of the Christian east.

Two groups of French troops were hit, one in the Shatila Palestinian refugee camp and the other in the grounds of the French ambassador's gardened residence off the Corniche Mazraa.

The Defence Ministry in Paris said a paratroop Lieutenant-Colonel was killed and two other French soldiers wounded. State-run Beirut Radio spoke of three French troops killed and nine wounded.

As always, Beirut residents, many of whom huddled in their cellars as shells got close, could only guess where Wednesday's attack, estimated at more than 80 rounds, came from.

It was impossible to tell whether any of the shells were deliberately aimed at French military positions. But many residents believed the shelling, and Tuesday's bombardment of areas around the U.S. Marines, were aimed at provoking the four-nation peace force.



U.S. Marines run to take cover as their base comes under fire from the nearby Lebanese mountains Tuesday (A.P. wirephoto)

Assad, McFarlane discuss Lebanon

DAMASCUS (R) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad met U.S. special envoy Robert McFarlane Wednesday and discussed the Middle East and Lebanon, where fighting took on a new dimension as French aircraft went into action.

The official Syrian News Agency SANA gave no details of the talks, also attended by Syrian Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam and U.S. Ambassador Robert Paganelli.

Mr. McFarlane arrived in Damascus Tuesday to try to end the latest fighting in Lebanon, which erupted on Sunday after Israeli forces withdrew from the Shouf mountains and Beirut's outskirts

to safer positions further south.

The United States has warned Syria against involvement in the fighting between Druze militia, followers of the Syrian-backed Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party, and Christian Falangist forces.

But there was no confirmation that Syrian forces stationed in north and east Lebanon and estimated to number up to 40,000 men had taken part in the battles.

It was not clear what suggestions Mr. McFarlane carried with him to Damascus.

Meanwhile, Syria's official media Wednesday attacked U.S. threats against Syria over the latest fighting.

Doe's visit to Israel -- a loss, Ghandour says

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Liberian President Samuel Doe made his visit to Israel in August only after his attempts to enlist Arab aid for his country had failed to materialise, according to Mr. Ali Ghandour, chairman and president of Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline.

"Doe twice contacted me for possible help to his country, and I relayed his request to other Arab states, but no help was forthcoming," Mr. Ghandour said. "In the end, it seems, Doe went to Israel to ask for what he failed to get from us (Arabs)," he added. "Israel was more than ready, of course."

Liberia, along with many other African countries, severed its diplomatic relations with Israel after the 1973 Middle East war, but was the second country, after Zaïre, to re-establish those relations.

Doe made his visit to Israel late last month amid cries of Arab protests and a warm Israeli welcome against and for the move. While some Arab countries, namely Saudi Arabia and its allies in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), strongly denounced the Liberian head of state's visit to Israel and threatened to sever relations with all states resuming diplomatic ties with Israel, the Israeli government hailed Doe's trip as heralding better relations with Africa and restoring Israeli influence in the continent.

Mr. Ghandour did not name the Arab countries he contacted over



Ali Ghandour

Doe's request, but his implicit criticism of such attitude by the Arabs seemed directed against the richer Arab states. He was delivering a lecture on Alia's role in Jordan's development at a luncheon held by the Amman Lions Club at the Iyche Hotel on Wednesday.

Alia, besides being one of the few airlines in the world making profit during these difficult economic years, is also shouldering its responsibility as Jordan's ambassador to the world, and is doing a lot for the country locally, Mr. Ghandour said.

He cited Alia's role in helping another West African country, Sierra Leone, set up a national airline as a contribution which Jordan is making to the Third World, and in bridging the gap with the more technologically advanced countries.

With Arab resources what they are, a Third World and a poor country like Liberia need not have had to go and establish an embassy in Jerusalem, Mr. Ghandour said.

Saudi Arabia freezes Mideast mediation efforts

JEDDAH (R) — Saudi Arabia announced Wednesday that it had decided to freeze its mediation efforts between Lebanon and Syria.

A statement from Saudi Information Minister Ali Hassan Al Shaer, broadcast by Riyadh Radio, said the decision was taken at an emergency cabinet meeting presided over by King Fahd.

The statement said Saudi Arabia regretted that its mediation efforts had failed to achieve results and therefore "it finds itself obliged to freeze its efforts until encouraging positive signs appeared, which could justify the resumption of those efforts."

Saudi Arabia, a major financial backer of Syria, had been trying to end the fighting in Lebanon and its Foreign Minister, Prince Saud Al Faisal, visited Damascus several times.

The Saudi statement said the kingdom had used its good offices without bias.

Its mediation attempts int-

ensified in recent months with the aim of finding a formula to safeguard Lebanese independence and sovereignty.

BAHRAIN (R) — Saudi Arabia's Minister of Defence and Aviation, Prince Sultan Ibn Abdulaziz, called Wednesday for the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Lebanon, the official Saudi Press Agency reported.

"All foreign troops should withdraw from Lebanon, regardless of their nationality... all (Arabs) should attend to Lebanon's security, integrity and unity of its people," he was quoted as telling reporters in Jeddah.

The statement was broadcast while Kuwait's Foreign Minister, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed Al Sabah, was in Jeddah where he saw King Fahd.

Kuwait had joined the Saudi mediation efforts and Sheikh Sabah visited Damascus on Aug. 28.

U.N. conference approves moderate compromise

GENEVA (R) — A United Nations Conference on Palestine Wednesday implicitly recognised Israel's right to exist in a final declaration described by one Western diplomat as "half a step towards peace."

The 118-nation conference affirmed "The right of all states in the region to existence within secure and internationally recognised boundaries."

The 10-day meeting's final declaration tied the rights to secure borders to Palestinian rights, "including the right to self-determination and the right to establish its own independent state in Palestine."

Delegates said Syria argued for tougher wording in closed-door drafting meetings. But they said Arab moderates led by Jordan, with the support of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) delegation, succeeded in persuading them to accept a draft which the conference could accept by consensus.

Finland, Austria and Sweden, among the few West European countries to participate in the conference, wanted Israel's right to exist to be explicitly recognised but said they would accept the compromise. They had threatened to ask for a vote on the declaration and to abstain if it embodied derogatory Syrian amendments, delegates said.

Israel, which along with the U.S. is boycotting the conference, described it as a waste of \$7 million of U.N. money, its resolutions. Israeli Ambassador Avadia Soffer said in a statement, "only reflect one single opinion, that held by the extremist Arab states and their allies."

One European Community ambassador said: "The outcome proves the Israelis wrong. The Arabs have been quite moderate and even the Syrians did not pursue their case very hard. 'It is half a step towards peace,' he added.

West launches attack on Moscow

MADRID (R) — Western governments launched a coordinated attack on the Soviet Union Wednesday over the loss of a Korean airliner, accusing Moscow of callousness and brutality.

NATO foreign ministers joined the United States in charging that Moscow was guilty of shooting down the Korean Boeing 747 last week, killing all 269 passengers and crew.

Canada called it a "conscious

attack" on a civil plane, and Britain held the Kremlin responsible for "callous disregard of human life." West Germany demanded a "watertight public explanation."

The airliner crisis dominated the start of a three-day closing session of the European Security Conference, called to endorse a new charter on human rights, military security and further cooperation in Europe.

Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei

Gromyko, responded to these attacks and charged that the South Korean airliner downed last week was on a special spy mission for U.S. intelligence.

He repeated a Soviet admission that Soviet aircraft "stopped the flight" of the jumbo jet with 269 aboard when it ignored orders to land and tried to escape.

The crisis was seen by Western officials as a major setback after three years of wrangling.

Thousands attend funeral service for victims of lost Korean Airliner

SEOUL (R) — A grief-stricken crowd of more than 100,000 people Wednesday attended a funeral service for the victims of a South Korean airliner shot down last week as the Soviet Union came under renewed pressure to admit it destroyed the plane with heat-seeking missiles.

South Korea's President Chun Doo Hwan, in a television broadcast coinciding with the Seoul memorial ceremony for the plane's 269 victims, called on the Kremlin to end "its wicked deception and reveal the true facts... they should act like rational human beings."

At the United Nations, Security Council delegates heard the tape recorded voice of a Soviet fighter pilot end a radio exchange with ground controllers by saying he had destroyed the aircraft with missiles.

In Tokyo Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe accused Moscow Wednesday of maintaining a deceitful line of argument in its latest statement on

the downed south Korean airliner. The statement last night said a fighter pilot was ordered to "stop" the plane, but Moscow insisted that it could not have known it was a civilian aircraft and repeated charges that it was spying.

Commercial pilots in Western Europe rallied to support a call for a boycott on flying to Moscow in condemnation of the downing of the Korean airliner by Soviet fighters, killing 269 people.

British pilots agreed to back a 60-day ban recommended by the International Federation of Air Line Pilots Associations (IFALPA) after an emergency meeting Tuesday.

The Scandinavian Airline SAS said pilots in Norway, Sweden and Denmark had also decided to enforce the boycott, at least initially.

Air France pilots threatened to ban flights to Moscow from next Monday unless the Soviet authorities guaranteed security for civil airliners.

Roger Borie, vice-president of France's Union of Airline Pilots,

said safety on the polar routes was poor and "we don't want to be potted like rabbits when we fly it."

West German pilots supported the ban but a spokesman said they could not join in unless the National Airline Lufthansa waived a clause in their contracts banning boycotts.

As weeping relatives of the plane's victims packed into Seoul's soccer stadium for Wednesday's funeral service, the South Korean President denounced the shooting down of the Boeing as "a gross violation of civilised behaviour and a barbarous act of violence."

Mr. Chun said: "Nobody on earth but the Soviet authorities would believe that a 70-year-old man or a four-year-old child would fly in a civil plane that had the objective of violating their airspace to engage in espionage."

Buddhist monks, Roman Catholic priests and Protestant ministers conducted religious services for the victims from 16 countries.

Weinberger visits battle-torn Salvador

SAN SALVADOR (R) — Gunmen attacked the headquarters of a right-wing political party in El Salvador's capital Wednesday as U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger visited military units fighting in the country's civil war.

Salvadoran Vice-President Raul Molina Martinez told reporters that a member of his National Conciliation Party (PNC) and a policeman were wounded when gunmen using automatic

weapons fired from a car at the party building.

A few hours earlier Mr. Weinberger had arrived in San Salvador on the second leg of a three-nation tour of Central America, the first by a U.S. Secretary of Defence.

Military sources said Wednesday that left-wing guerrillas had blown up two electric power pylons in the rugged northern province of Chalatenango, a str-

onghold of Farabundo Mari National Liberation Front (FMLN) guerrillas.

PNC chief Molina would not spell out who he thought responsible for the attack on the PNC headquarters but he hinted that he suspected leftists.

As Mr. Weinberger inspected U.S.-trained troops in San Vicente, guerrilla leader Joaquin Villalobos pledged that the FMLN would wage war until victory.

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MIDDLE EAST

Chad government claims 2nd rebel attacks in 5 days

N'DJAMENA (R) — The Chad government says its northeast garrison of Oum Chalouba has been attacked by Libyan-backed rebels for the second time in five days.

Information Minister Mahamat Soumaila, announcing the new attack, said some 3,000 rebels attacked Tuesday morning but were repulsed despite support from Libyan armour and artillery.

He gave few details, but said fighting continued into the afternoon between troops loyal to President Hissene Habre and the rebel forces of former President Goukouni Oueddei.

There has been no independent confirmation of the battle, which Mr. Soumaila said followed 90 minutes of intensive bombing by Libyan planes on Monday afternoon.

Government accounts of the first battle in the Oum Chalouba region last Friday and of the bombing have been at odds with other versions of the events available here.

Well-informed sources who are following the war closely agreed that Friday's attack took place, although they regarded the government figure of 3,000 attackers as exaggerated.

They pinpointed the start of the fighting as some 50 kilometres to the south of Oum Chalouba.

The sources said they were aware of only one unidentified high-flying plane that dropped a few bombs in the vicinity of Oum Chalouba, a remote desert crossroads with only a few mudbrick dwellings, without causing casualties.

Mr. Soumaila said six Libyan Sukhoi and Tupolev bombers were involved and that they caused civilian casualties and destroyed unspecified military equipment.

Western diplomatic sources said they believed the attacks were aimed at testing Mr. Habre's men at the only point where rebels risk no entanglement with the 2,000 troops which France has sent to its former colony as instructors to

government forces. The nearest French contingent is at Arada, 100 kilometres south of Oum Chalouba, which is considered indefensible and unimportant by Western military experts.

In Friday's battle, the government claimed its troops killed 800 rebels and captured 600, most of them Sudanese, while it lost 15 wounded and captured large quantities of food, arms and ammunition.



French paratroopers are preparing to make test fire with a 120mm mortar in the Chadian Desert, near the northwestern outpost of Salal, last week. Over 2,500 French troops were dispatched to Chad to support government forces of President Habre. (A.P. wirephoto)

Afghan rebel successes claimed

LONDON (R) — Afghan guerrillas killed 180 Soviet and government troops and wounded some 200 others in three days of fierce fighting near Shindand in the mountainous northwest province of Herat last week, the Iranian National News Agency IRNA said.

Quoting informed sources, the agency, received in London, said five tanks and a personnel carrier were destroyed in the fighting, in which 14 guerrillas were killed.

Kohl to visit Mideast Oct. 5

AMMAN (R) — West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl is expected here on Oct. 5 for a three-day official visit to Jordan at the start of three-nation Middle East tour, a West German embassy spokesman said.

Dr. Kohl will later visit Egypt and Saudi Arabia on his first trip to the Middle East since coming to power last year.

He cancelled a visit to Israel planned for last week after Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin decided to resign.

2 Frenchwomen hurt in Tehran bomb blast

BAHRAIN (R) — A bomb exploded Wednesday in a French diplomatic car in Tehran, slightly injuring two French embassy staff in the vehicle. French diplomatic sources said in Tehran.

The embassy staff, both women, were allowed to return home after treatment in hospital, the sources told Reuters by telephone from Tehran.

The bomb exploded as they were driving to the embassy. The sources said two time bombs were apparently planted Tuesday night in the back seat of the car, which was garaged away from the embassy overnight, but one of them failed to go off.

Nobody had claimed responsibility for the attack, the latest of a series against French targets in Iran.

The sources said the car, which was badly damaged, was close to the embassy when the explosion occurred. The roof and floor of the vehicle were pierced, and although the petrol tank was damaged, it failed to explode.

They said measures had been taken to strengthen security after the recent attacks, for which an organisation calling itself the "Orly group" has claimed responsibility.

The group has said the attacks were in retaliation for a crackdown on Armenian militants in France after a bomb attack on Orly airport in July in which eight people died.

Informed sources in Paris said last month five French gendarmes would be sent to Tehran to protect French interests.

There have been at least five bomb attacks against French targets in Iran since July and an abortive attempt was made to kidnap a diplomat.

In Paris, an external relations ministry spokesman said after the car bombing that French officials remained in contact with Iranian authorities.

Iran plans to send men to strategic Gulf island

LONDON (R) — Iran will dispatch revolutionary guards to the small Gulf Island of Larak to exercise closer surveillance over Iran's territorial waters, the official Iranian news agency IRNA said Tuesday night.

The island lies a few kilometres off the port of Bandar Abbas, at the northern side of the Straits of Hormuz and opposite Oman's northern Musandam Peninsula.

Omani military base

Musandam is the site of a major Omani military base which is being upgraded with American assistance to provide staging facilities for the U.S. rapid deployment force.

Iran has said it would close the Gulf, through which much of the world's oil supplies pass, if its Gulf war enemy Iraq threatened its oil exports.

Oman has responded with a call for Gulf states to help it build up its naval power, which is greatly inferior to Iran's.

Visit to China

PEKING (R) — Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati will visit China from Sept. 12 to 15, a foreign ministry spokesman announced Wednesday.

While Sino-Iranian relations have improved over the last year or two, there has been friction over reports, denied here, that Peking has sold large numbers of its most sophisticated tank, the T-69, to Iraq.

Saudis say BBC is anti-Arab

BAHRAIN (R) — Saudi Arabia has accused the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) of adopting a Zionist, anti-Arab bias since the recent appointment of its Jewish chairman Stuart Young.

The accusation followed the BBC's broadcast on its Arabic radio service of a Tehran radio report saying 14 Iranian pilgrims to Saudi Arabia, including a parliamentary deputy, had been arrested.

In London, the BBC issued a statement saying it denied the charges.

Saudi Arabia said the Iranian report was fabricated and that Muslim pilgrims to the holy shrines at Mecca and Medina, including Iranians, were being given every facility to perform their religious duties.

An official source at the Saudi Arabian information ministry told

the Saudi press agency that the BBC had recently broadcast news and features which insulted the religious rituals of the Islamic World and thus the Saudi government.

"This was the result of the recent appointment of a Zionist chairman for the BBC whose flagrant enmity to Islam and Arabism is well noted," the agency said.

"This has led to a bias on the part of the BBC and hence escalated its campaigns against all Muslims, especially at this holy time when two million Muslims are performing Haj (pilgrimage) in the holy city of Mecca," the agency quoted the official source as saying.

It added Saudi Arabia strongly denounced the BBC's attitude and warned that continuation of such reports "could have a negative

effect on relations between Saudi Arabia and the United Kingdom," despite the fact that both countries were keen to strengthen ties.

The BBC statement said the BBC rejected the charges of biased reporting.

"The charges of bias against BBC chairman Stuart Young are also denied. Speaking recently on the BBC Arabic service, he said: 'The last thing I would ever wish to do is to try to lead the policy of the BBC in a particular political, racial or economic direction.'"

"Mr. Young went on to say that he and the board of governors would ensure that the BBC's worldwide reputation for fairness and accuracy would be maintained," it added.

Saudi minister says some Iranians have molested other Medina pilgrims

BAHRAIN (R) — Saudi Arabian Interior Minister Prince Nayef Abdulaziz said some Iranians had molested other Muslim pilgrims in the holy city of Medina, the official Saudi press agency reported Wednesday.

He quoted Prince Nayef as telling a news conference in Mecca Tuesday night: "Some of our Iranian brothers have molested other pilgrims in the streets of Medina two days ago and we have asked them

not to repeat this." "We hope the Iranians will respond to our request and refrain from such acts," the agency quoted him as saying. It gave no details.

Three days ago, Tehran Radio said Iranian pilgrims had staged demonstrations in Medina shouting slogans against the United States, the Soviet Union and Israel.

An official source at the Saudi ministry of information Tuesday denied another Tehran Radio report that Saudi Arabia had arrested 14 Iranian pilgrims, and said all Muslims were performing their rituals in complete safety.

Some 65,000 of an expected 90,000 Iranians have already arrived in Saudi Arabia for the annual Haj pilgrimage to Mecca and Medina.

Kuwait urges U.N. to safeguard civil aviation

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait has urged the U.N. Security Council to take practical measures to guarantee the safety of civil aviation.

A Kuwaiti foreign ministry spokesman commenting on the loss of a South Korean airliner with 269 people aboard said: "Kuwait regrets the incident and the loss of life involved."

"We are now concerned about the safety of civil aviation. We hope all security council members will seek measures to ensure the safety of civil aircraft and adopt practical measures that will not expose them to similar dangers."

The spokesman added. Kuwait earlier this week rejected a request from South Korea's ambassador here to condemn the Soviet Union for shooting down the aircraft.

It said there was no proof to back allegations by the U.S., Japan and South Korea that the Korean Air Lines Boeing 747 had been shot down by a Soviet fighter near the Soviet Union's Sakhalin Island.

Kuwait is the only member of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council to have diplomatic relations with Moscow.

OAU to hold meeting on W. Sahara

ADDIS ABABA (R) — Delegates from six African nations will meet here on Sept. 17-19 for a fresh round of talks on the Western Sahara conflict. The Organisation of African Unity (OAU) secretariat said Wednesday.

The meeting was called by OAU chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam of Ethiopia who invited delegations from Guinea, Mali, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Sudan and Tanzania to attend.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL

16:30 Koran
16:30 Cartoon
17:00 Soccer - Jordan Vs. Qatar
19:10 Programmes Review
19:20 Local Programme
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic Series
21:30 Arabic Play
22:00 News in Arabic
23:00 Arabic Play Cont.

FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00 French Programme
19:30 News in French
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:30 Comedy: Three's Company
21:10 Knots Landing
22:00 News in English
22:15 Feature Film: When Hell Was in Session

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & partly on 95.60 KHz, SW

07:10 Morning Show
07:30 News Bulletin
07:40 Morning Show
08:00 News Summary
08:30 Oriental Food
08:40 Morning Show
09:00 Pop Session
09:30 News Summary
09:45 Pop Session
10:00 News Bulletin
10:15 The Young Sound
10:30 Concert Hour
10:40 News Summary
10:50 Instrumentals, Old Favourites
11:00 Special Feature, Pop Session
11:30 News Summary
11:45 Profile
11:50 News Desk
12:00 Date with a Star
12:30 News Summary
12:45 Evening Show
12:55 News Summary
13:00 Evening Show
13:15 News Summary
13:30 News Summary
13:45 Close Down

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1413 KHz

06:00 Newscast 06:30 Classical Record

Reveries 06:45 Financial News 06:55 Reflections 07:00 World News 24 Hours

News Summary 07:30 Pop Session 07:45 The World Today 08:00 Newscast

08:30 Natur Notebook 08:40 The Farming World 09:00 World News 24 Hours

News Summary 09:30 Country Style 09:45 Network U.K. 10:00 News

10:05 Reflections 10:15 Short Story 10:30 John Peel 11:00 World News

11:05 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News

11:40 Look Ahead 11:45 Science Through the Looking Glass 12:00 The Art of Janet Baker 12:30 The Hitchhiker's

Guide to the Galaxy 13:00 World News: News about Britain 13:15 New Ideas

13:25 The Week in Wales 13:30 The Continent 14:00 Radio Newscast 14:15

Top Twenty 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:05 24 Hours

News Summary 15:30 Cricket Commentary 15:45 The Pleasure of Your

16:30 Cricket Commentary 16:45 Network U.K. 17:00 Radio Newscast 17:15

Stock Market Report 21:45 Look Ahead 21:55 Report on Religion 22:00

World News 22:05 24 Hours News Summary 22:30 A Jolly Good Show

22:45 World Newscast 22:50 In the Meantime 23:30 Business Matters 24:00

World News 00:00 The World Today 00:25 The Week in Wales 00:30 Financial

News 00:40 Reflections 00:45 Sports Round-up 01:00 World News 01:05

Commentary 01:15 Merchant Navy Programme 01:30 Meridian

06:00 Newscast 06:30 Country Style

06:45 Financial News 06:55 Reflections 07:00 World News 07:05 24 Hours

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News 00:40 Reflections 00:45 Sports Round-up 01:00 World News 01:05

Commentary 01:15 Merchant Navy Programme 01:30 Meridian

06:00 Newscast 06:30 Country Style

06:45 Financial News 06:55 Reflections 07:00 World News 07:05 24 Hours

News Summary 07:30 Whip Hand 07:45 The World Today 08:00 Newscast

08:30 Natur Notebook 08:40 The Farming World 09:00 World News 24 Hours

News Summary 09:30 Country Style 09:45 Network U.K. 10:00 News

10:05 Reflections 10:15 Short Story 10:30 John Peel 11:00 World News

11:05 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News

11:40 Look Ahead 11:45 Science Through the Looking Glass 12:00 The Art of Janet Baker

12:30 The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy 13:00 World News: News about Britain

13:15 New Ideas 13:25 The Week in Wales 13:30 The Continent 14:00 Radio Newscast

14:15 Top Twenty 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:05 24 Hours

News Summary 15:30 Cricket Commentary 15:45 The Pleasure of Your

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

FILM

"Heaven Can Wait" at the American Centre Thursday at 8:00 p.m.

"Violette et François" (subtitles in Arabic) at the French Cultural Centre Friday at 7:30 p.m.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267

American Centre Tel. 44371

British Council Tel. 36147-8

French Cultural Centre Tel. 37009

Soviet Cultural Centre Tel. 42403

Spanish Cultural Centre Tel. 24049

Turkish Cultural Centre Tel. 39777

Hays Arts Centre Tel. 665195

Y.W.C.A. Tel. 667151

Y.W.M.C.A. Tel. 664251

Amman Municipal Library Tel. 36111

University of Jordan Library Tel. 843575

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabel Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Mutazzah, Jabel Lawzeh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128.

Military Museum: Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman.

06:00 Newscast 06:30 Country Style

06:45 Financial News 06:55 Reflections 07:00 World News 07:05 24 Hours

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News Summary 15:30 Cricket Commentary 15:45 The Pleasure of Your

16:30 Cricket Commentary 16:45 Network U.K. 17:00 Radio Newscast 17:15

Stock Market Report 21:45 Look Ahead 21:55 Report on Religion 22:00

World News 22:05 24 Hours News Summary 22:30 A Jolly Good Show

22:45 World Newscast 22:50 In the Meantime 23:30 Business Matters 24:00

World News 00:00 The World Today 00:25 The Week in Wales 00:30 Financial

News 00:40 Reflections 00:45 Sports Round-up 01:00 World News 01:05

Commentary 01:15 Merchant Navy Programme 01:30 Meridian

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11:40 Look Ahead 11:45 Science Through the Looking Glass 12:00 The Art

HOME NEWS

Seminar discusses implications of biotechnology

By Anne Counsell
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Dr. Adnan Badran, president of the Yarmouk University, Wednesday opened a series of seminars on "Health and Biotechnology" at the Yarmouk University liaison office in Amman. The two-day conference focuses on the importance of biotechnology, current developments and applications, together with reports on health education by national and international specialists. The seminars were arranged by the International Union of Biological Scientists (IUBS), and the Commission for Biological Education in co-operation with the Yarmouk University.

Participants and specialists from West Germany, U.K., USA, Singapore, the Philippines, Japan, Nigeria, Kenya, Mauritania, Egypt, Lebanon and Finland are attending the seminars in addition

to representatives from the World Health Organisation (WHO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), the European Communities Biologists Association (ECBA), and the Asian Association for Biology Education (AABE).

In his opening address, Dr. Badran welcomed the participants to Jordan and the seminars and expressed his gratitude to UNESCO and IUBS for their contribution and co-operation. He emphasised the importance of the seminars as a means of serving human needs through health education and biotechnology.

The programme continued Wednesday with a series of talks and discussions on biotechnology, a rapidly developing science with far-reaching potential that utilises the properties, biochemical processes and products of micro-organisms. Biotechnology is used

in the pharmaceutical, chemical and food industries and also in alleviating pollution problems by using the fermenting properties of micro-organisms to convert waste into methane, which can be used as a fuel or energy source.

The lectures also covered current techniques and developments in plant tissue culture, plant systems and virology and emphasised the need for education in this field. The social impact of the developments was also mentioned referring to the potential for increased food production, the combating of disease, and the control of pollution which were felt to outweigh some of the controversial issues surrounding the subject such as genetic engineering and the danger of uncontrolled use. Already developments in research have led to the isolation of the gene for human insulin, advances in the synthesis of antibiotics, and a greater understanding of interactions in the environment. These advances and the availability of inexpensive raw materials that are used in the processes have a special significance in developing countries.

The health education seminar continues Thursday with delegates from international organisations discussing their contributions to health education and a series of reports to be given by

participants from Egypt, Central Africa, Japan and Jordan on the health education in their countries to be followed by discussion. The health education seminar aims to review international developments with relevance to developing and especially Arab countries, and to link such countries to the work of IUBS and CBE. The conclusions drawn from these reviews together with other work will contribute to the international conference on "Science, Education and Future Human Needs" to be held in Bangalore, India in 1985.

The seminars on biotechnology and health education are held annually in different countries and this is the first time they have been held in Jordan. In an interview with the Jordan Times, Dr. Adnan Badran emphasised the importance of the discussions and advances in these fields as being relevant to developments in Jordan. He also expressed confidence that the participation of top scientists and educators in the seminars would be of significance in serving human needs. The participants also visited the Royal Scientific Society Wednesday and will Thursday hear a lecture on health education in Jordan given by Dr. Elias Baydoun from the Yarmouk University so as to further their understanding of developments and research in Jordan.

Hourani: Greater oil production essential to Arab food security

AMMAN (J.T.) — A two-day seminar on the production, consumption and marketing of vegetable oil in the Arab World opened at the Amman Chamber of Commerce Wednesday.

Addressing the delegates from various Arab states, Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Trade Mohammad Saleh Al Hourani called on Arab states to adopt a unified strategy aimed at developing vegetable oil production because, he said, oil constitutes a vital element in ensuring Arab food security.

Arab states are called on to find the means to overcome all obstacles in the production of vegetable oil and its marketing and to train staff capable of handling these processes, he said.

Mr. Hourani said that oil is employed in a number of industrial, chemical and agricultural industries and therefore more research should be undertaken to develop this industry.

Since 1980, the Arab World has imported 262,000 tonnes of oil seed which cost nearly \$1 billion as well as nearly one million tonnes of vegetable oil, Mr. Hourani said. It is because of the lack of skilled employees, technology and other problems that the Arab World has been importing oil from abroad, and it is hoped that the seminar will arrive at constructive results to this end, Mr. Hourani

said. The seminar is being organised by the Arab Union for Foodstuff Industries (AUI) in cooperation with the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce (FJCC).

The AUI Secretary-General, Dr. Fahad Jaber, also spoke at the opening session referring to the large and dangerous gap that exists between the Arab World's production and consumption of vegetable oil, as well as cereals, meat and fodder crops. It is estimated that Arab World's shortage of these products up to the year 2000 will be worth \$2,000 million, Dr. Jaber said.

He said that increased efforts are required to develop Arab vegetable oil production. The Arab World owns more than 130 million olive trees and vast lands growing cotton, peanuts and sun-

flowers which are good sources of oil, in addition to the other natural resources and petroleum that it at present possesses, Dr. Jaber said.

FJCC President Hamdi Al Tabba' addressed the opening session by referring to the fact that the Arab World is still incapable of producing sufficient food supplies and basic food commodities due to lack of proper farming and the poor methods of developing and exploiting the land.

Mr. Tabba' also referred in his speech to Jordan's endeavours to develop olive oil production. Last year Jordan produced 40,300 tonnes of olive oil which was consumed or made into soap and ghee, Mr. Tabba' added.

The seminar is expected to end Thursday having made a number of recommendations.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Abu Talib meets U.S. air chief

AMMAN (Petra) — The Armed Forces Chief of Staff Maj.-Gen. Fathi Abu Talib Wednesday received in his office the Inspector General of the U.S. Air Force Lt.-Gen. Howard Leaf and his accompanying delegation. During the meeting the two sides exchanged gifts. The meeting was also attended by the Commander of the Royal Jordanian Air Force and the U.S. military attache in Amman.

Traffic fines top JD 100 thousand

AMMAN (Petra) — Fines imposed on traffic violations in the first six months of the year amounted to JD 108,712 in the Amman area alone, according to a statement by the Amman Municipality Court. It said that these fines were collected before the implementation of the new traffic law. According to the statement, the court also collected fines for other misdemeanours including violations of sanitary regulations and licences for stores and crafts and workshops amounting to JD 4,964 in the same period.

Police officers graduation held

AMMAN (Petra) — A ceremony was held at the headquarters of the Central Police Department in Amman Wednesday to mark the graduation of the 21st class of officers who have just completed a four-month training course. The officers were trained in the use of light arms, and received lessons in police science and other related topics. Senior police officers attended the ceremony at the end in which the graduates were presented with their diplomas and prizes.

Greek team, Suheimat hold transport talks

AMMAN (J.T.) — A visiting five member Greek delegation Tuesday discussed with Transport Minister Ali Suheimat subjects connected with road transport and the transit and travel of passengers between Jordan and Greece.

The meeting was convened as part of the bilateral transport agreement signed in 1979 which provides for periodic talks between the two sides to discuss subjects pertaining to the agreement and

any difficulties that might arise in the course of its implementation.

The Greek side at the meeting was led by Mr. Vassilios Karavias, from the Greek Economy Ministry while the Jordanian side was led by Mr. Yaqub Haddad, director of transport at the Ministry of Transport.

The delegation, which arrived here Monday evening, is due to leave for home Thursday.

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L'Ambasciata d'Italia in Amman indice una prova d'esame per l'assunzione di un impiegato a contratto di nazionalità italiana, con perfetta conoscenza della lingua italiana ed elementi di lingua Araba.

Per Ulteriori informazioni rivolgersi presso l'Ambasciata d'Italia in Amman, P.O. Box 9800 Tel. 38185.

SYMPOSIUM ON DRUG INDUSTRY

The Arab Company for Drug Industries and Medical Appliances "ACDIMA" will sponsor a symposium on "Drug Industry in the Arab World" during the period 5-7 December 1983. An Exhibition of light equipments, posters, modules, etc., related to drug industries and medical appliances will take place on 5-9 December, 1983. The fee/m² is U.S. dollar 300, areas 4, 8m² or more and the deadline for reservation is October 15th, 1983, on the basis of first come first serve.

For more information please contact "ACDIMA" P.O. Box 925161 - Amman-Jordan.
Tele: 21172 ACDIMA JO
Tel: 674351-674352

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The Korean Community in Jordan will hold

A Mourning Ceremony

For the 269 victims of 11 nationalities
In the incident of shooting down the Korean Airliner.

Today, Sept. 8, 1983 at 11 O'clock at
Shmeisani Building Construction site

The participation in the ceremony of those persons sharing the grief and sorrow will be appreciated.

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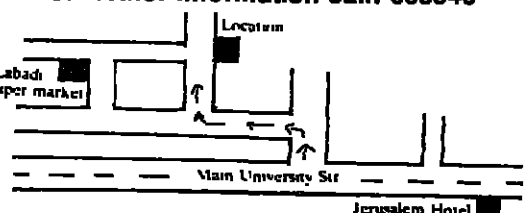
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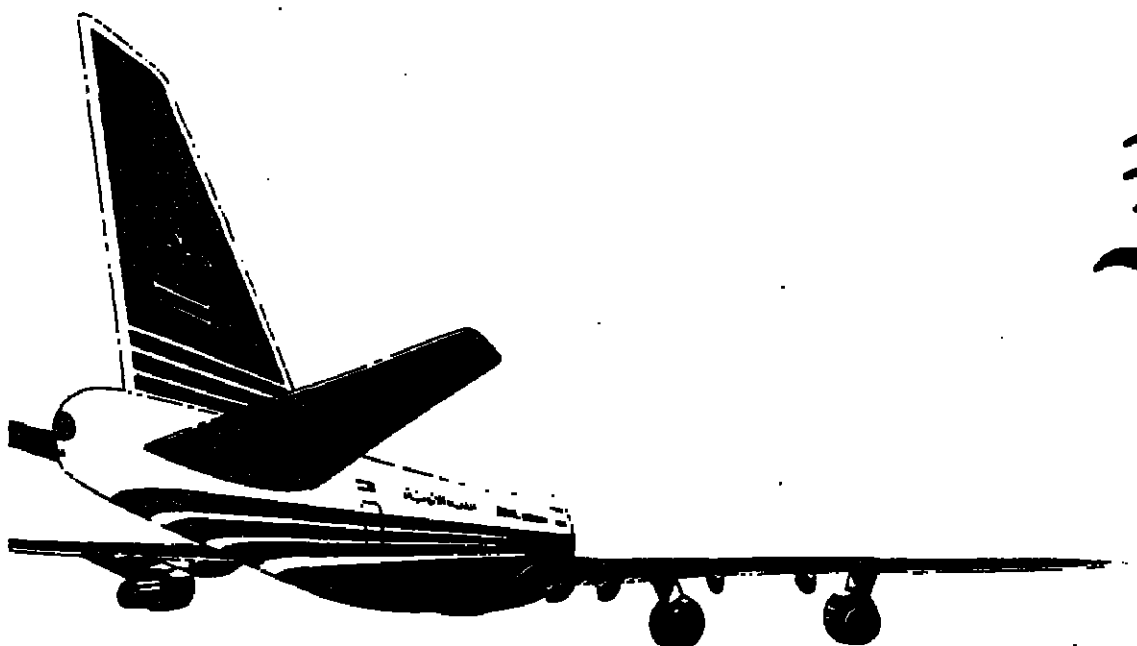
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Restrain the forces

BY SENDING its Super Etendard jets to knock out Druze and whatever militia positions in the hills around Beirut, France is dangerously and needlessly inflaming the already explosive situation in Lebanon. No matter who is killed among the French troops or the American Marines or the Falangists or the Druze, more killing there will only escalate the fighting and drive the whole country even farther into civil war, anarchy and bloody chaos.

The same thing applies to the Americans, the Italians and the British in the Multi-National Force stationed in and around Beirut. For it is easy to say that the French jets and the U.S. F-14s are only guiding Lebanese army guns to enable them to destroy sources of fire against east and west Beirut, or the jet fighters are just screaming low over Beirut towards Aley and Bhamdoun in order to frighten the fighting militias in the hills, where, in fact, such moves are just as, if not more, likely to perpetuate and deepen Lebanon's factional strife of today.

As we condemn the continued fighting among the brothers, and the whole world appeals for an end to the bloodshed, everybody and every country should be called upon to help stop the fighting and work towards dialogue and reconciliation.

To this end, the Italian government's invitation Tuesday to Druze leader Walid Junblatt for talks is a step that should be encouraged, especially now that Saudi Arabia has decided to freeze its efforts for reconciliation in Lebanon for lack of real progress. Junblatt's subsequent acceptance to go to Rome is also a measured response to efforts for peace and stability.

Lebanon is only metres away from collapse. If today's situation persists or is allowed to persist and gets out of hand, it soon will have been everybody's tragedy and, also, greatest mistake.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: U.S. show of force

AS THE battles intensify in Lebanon and the socialists and their allies continue their successes over the Falangists and their allies, Washington is resorting to a show of force near Lebanon. It was a dual show involving a U.S. aircraft carrier approaching the Lebanese coast and McFarlane who carried an American map outlining the distribution of Lebanese and foreign forces in Lebanon — an independent Arab country, a member of the Arab League and the United Nations.

The American show of force again reflects the U.S.'s 'stick' policy with which it hopes to subdue the people and subject them to its will and its domination. This show of force amounts to Washington's abandoning its promises to Lebanon and its pledges that it will safeguard the rights of all communities in Lebanon. The U.S. does not want to admit the futility of its policy nor does it want to blame Israel for what is going on in Lebanon, but it wants to shift responsibility on to others. The U.S. does not want to admit its collusion with the Israeli invaders in Lebanon. The death of three American soldiers in Tuesday's fighting will definitely open the door for others to get killed and will so be the price of U.S. collusion with the Falangists and Israel and the price of Israel's invasion of other countries.

Al Dustour: Jordan's deep concern

HIS ROYAL Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Tuesday expressed the Jordanian people's deep concern and worry over the current events in Lebanon. The hearts of all Arabs are filled with pain and sadness at the loss of human life and the destruction which is now going on in Lebanon.

Jordan's sympathy reflects the brotherly feelings towards the Lebanese people who over the past eight years have been constantly subject to killing and destruction. The fighting among the Lebanese endangers the unity of their country and its independence and future. Therefore, any resort to arms should be renounced by all parties and reason should replace weapons and killing. Under the present circumstances the efforts of all Arabs should be concentrated towards the ending of bloodshed in Lebanon and the safeguarding of its unity. The Arab leaders should help Lebanon bring about a national reconciliation and achieve peace among its warring groups.

Sawt Al Shaab: Washington's bias

U.S. POLICY towards all issues in our region can be summed up in one phrase "totally biased towards Israel". This policy has been applied in Lebanon, in Palestine and every time Israel launches any aggression against the Arab states.

America's biased attitude towards Israel has caused Washington to face many embarrassing situations. It must be emphasised that with every day that passes by, the United States proves more and more that it is biased towards Israel, so that Washington's policy now looks almost identical to that of Israel. The U.S. has backed Israel from the very beginning of its invasion of Lebanon and later dispatched its envoys to the region to fulfil diplomatically the objectives which Israel could not achieve by force. The result now is that the multinational force is frozen and can not stop the war in Lebanon, and the Israeli-Lebanese agreement is no more than a piece of paper. The real solution for the Lebanese crisis lies not in the hands of the Israelis or the Americans, but rather in the hands of the Lebanese. If the Israeli forces withdrew from Lebanon the other forces followed suit, the leaders of the warring factions would come to an agreement to end the bloodshed.

Promising U.N. drive for Cypriot reconciliation

By Arik Bachar
 Reuter

LONDON — Greek and Turkish Cypriots may be talking again soon on reuniting their long-partitioned island but a lasting solution is still far away. Western diplomats say.

They expect leaders of the two communities, separated since a Turkish invasion in 1974, will agree to restart negotiations based on new proposals presented by the U.N. last month.

Diplomats said U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar's ideas featured a presidency rotating between Greek and Turkish Cypriots and land concessions by the Turkish side. They said Greek Cypriot leaders were delaying a decision on the proposals because they did not include a call for withdrawal of the

Turkish force currently occupying the northern third of the Mediterranean island.

The diplomats believe Mr. Perez de Cuellar's ideas could lure the two sides back to inter-communal talks broken off last May as they left room for manoeuvre between widely opposing views.

"There is a good chance the two communities will agree to resume talks by mid-autumn as the U.N. initiative offers a good basis for bargaining," one informed diplomat said.

The U.N. ideas were presented as the Turkish federated state of Cyprus, set up in Turkish-held territory in 1975, was taking more steps to ensure a degree of independence from any future central government.

The Turkish community, headed by Rauf Denkash, selected a national flag and anthem in July. The Turkish lira has recently been

adopted as the official currency in northern Cyprus and a development bank was inaugurated.

Turkish complaints of discrimination by the Greek majority were the root cause of communal violence between Cypriot independence from Britain in 1960 and the 1974 invasion.

The Turkish thrust came amid fears that Greek Cypriot leaders would opt for a union with Greece. Turkey and Greece, together with Britain, were the guarantors of Cypriot independence in 1960. Diplomats in close touch with Cyprus developments say the U.N. ideas would compensate the Turks, under a future constitution with two federated zones, in relation to territorial concessions they offer.

The Turkish community — 18 per cent of Cyprus' 620,000 population before the Turkish landing — now control about 36 per cent of the island.

A diplomat who has been Mr. Perez de Cuellar's proposals said they offered options on the territorial aspect between a ratio of 77-23 per cent in the Greeks' favour to 70-30 per cent.

"The more the Turks will be willing to give up in territory, the better off they will end up constitutionally," he said.

On the question of a presidency, the secretary-general offered two ideas: Either a rotation between Turkish and Greek Cypriots or reverting to the 1960 constitution under which a Cypriot was president with a Turkish Cypriot deputising.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar proposed establishing a legislature made up of two chambers — an upper house divided equally between the communities and a lower house with either proportional representation or a ratio of 7-3 in the Greeks' favour.

The inter-communal talks, which dragged on for years, were broken off by Mr. Denkash when the U.N. General Assembly in May issued a call for a withdrawal of Turkish troops.

Mr. Denkash said the talks could not go on unless Greek Cypriot President Spyros Kyprianou and the Greek government in Athens ceased pressuring his federated state, recognised only by Ankara, through the U.N.

It talks are eventually resumed, diplomats expect tough bargaining by both sides on the future shape of the country.

They say that while the Turks will want to retain a large degree of independence from the Greek community, the Greeks will probably insist on freedom of movement and settlement anywhere in the island's 9,246 square kilometres.

Some 150,000 Cypriots were

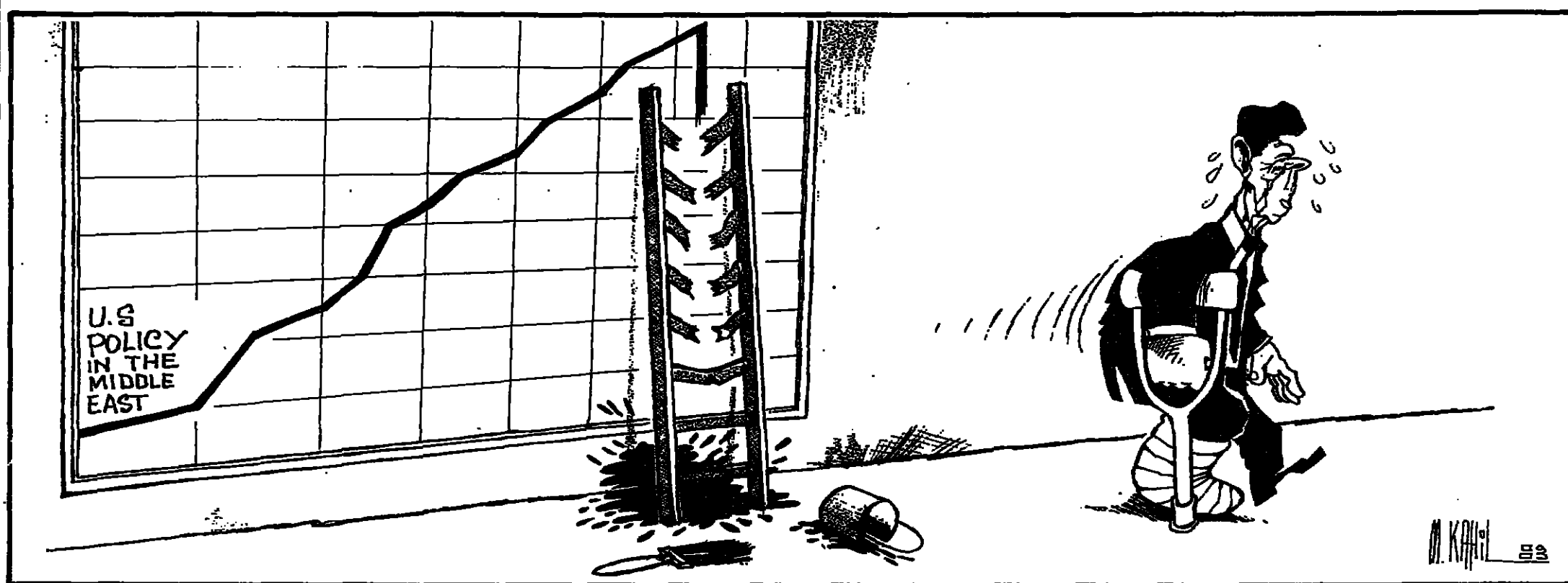
displaced during the 1974 fighting as Turks flocked to the north and large number of Greek Cypriots fled to the south, leaving property behind.

The two communities are currently separated by a green line patrolled by a U.N. peacekeeping force.

Western experts say that while maintaining the estimated 20,000-strong Turkish occupation force does not constitute a major financial burden, Ankara is probably interested in resuming the inter-communal talks.

Turkey opposes moves by Mr. Denkash to declare independence in northern Cyprus for fear of increased international pressure.

At the same time while Athens is apparently not enthusiastic about the latest U.N. initiative, the Greek Cypriot community is in favour of resuming the negotiating process.



Congress plays it tough on Pentagon spendings

By Carol Giacomo
 Reuter

WASHINGTON — Recent embarrassing disclosures of Pentagon spending abuses have made it even less likely that President Reagan's ambitious military budget will survive without major reductions, congressional sources say.

The disclosures that the Pentagon paid \$110 for a tiny electrical part worth four cents and \$430 for an ordinary claw hammer — there were numerous other examples — could not have come at a worse time for Mr. Reagan.

The president is finding it difficult to persuade Congress to approve a 10 per cent increase in military spending for 1984 and despite administration assurances that a crackdown on spending abuse is under way, scepticism remains widespread.

Five Republican senators warned senior Pentagon officials at a public hearing in July that "horror stories" of overcharges for spare parts for the military endangered the national consensus on defence spending.

Some even used the words "fraud" and "theft" to describe the actions of defence contractors. While spare parts dominate current concern, problems remain with major weapons as well.

A new report by congressional analysts found that 36 major systems, including the Trident submarine, will exceed their contract prices by a total of \$3.8 billion. They said these cost overruns could be a warning of potential major growth in future weapons

contracts.

The administration's sensitivity over the issue was evident in the president's attempt, in one of his weekly radio addresses to persuade Americans that his managers have now taken a tough line with defence bureaucrats and contractors.

Earlier, Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger gave a similar assurance, telling reporters that a crackdown on spending abuses was under way and corrective actions were being taken.

He announced that bidders on air force jet engine contracts would have to guarantee their bids would be competitive in buying spare parts.

But congressional sources said the Pentagon might face increasingly tight purchasing rules written into law unless the administration convinced Congress, by deeds and not just words, that it was implementing specific measures to eliminate waste.

On the specific issue of military spending for 1984, congressional committees have already halved Mr. Reagan's requested 10 per cent increase and the full Senate and House of Representatives are expected to go along with the committees when they return from an August holiday.

Mr. Reagan's chances of getting the increase through Congress have been further damaged by the announcement that Republican Senator John Tower of Texas, chairman of the Armed Services Committee and a leading Pentagon champion, will not seek re-election next year.

Mr. Tower's decision may not only deprive Mr. Reagan of much

of his clout in the next 16 months but may also increase the chances of opposition Democrats regaining control of the Senate next year.

In addition, the Reagan administration has little credibility the Armed Services Committee, who recalls administration opposition to establishing an independent inspector general's office in the Pentagon.

Mr. Levin noted that this was the office which focused public attention on such abuses as overpayment for spare parts.

The White House also opposed the appointment of a Pentagon director of operational testing and evaluation to play an independent role on decisions affecting new weapons.

But Congress approved the new post and Mr. Weinberger is due to name a director in November.

"They could appoint a stooge," said William Lind, an aide to Democratic Senator Gary Hart, adding: "Who they appoint will be a clear signal of the 1984 defence bill, which still requires a final vote. Congress also approved a requirement that the defence secretary develop a plan to end the pattern of steep increases in the price of spare parts."

If those initiatives do not work, Congress is likely to face growing pressure to adopt other safeguards, though some believe the law is a clumsy tool for eliminating Pentagon waste.

The administration, with its control over procurement and spending, is the branch of government with the real power to effect change, many congressional defence sources say.

Young Mexican president pays for old economic flaws

By William Chislett

MEXICO CITY — President Miguel de la Madrid of Mexico is sitting on top of a volcano. He has to cope with a gigantic external debt, a harsh stabilisation programme with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), high inflation, economic contraction for the first time in 50 years, intense demand for jobs and the prospect that the political turmoil in neighbouring Central America could spread to Mexico.

Mr. de la Madrid, 48, believes that Mexico financed too much of its economic development through foreign borrowing and far too little through foreign investment. "The growth of our debt (now \$83 billion) has been excessive. For many years Mexico will have to borrow on capital markets to finance projects and meet balance of payments needs, but we must moderate the rate of growth because the debt service is already far too great a strain," he said.

If Mexico's debt growth has been spectacular, the increase in the inflation rate has been equally dramatic — from 30 per cent in 1981 to almost 100 per cent last year.

The major domestic price increases, including a 140 per cent increase in the petrol price, have now been carried out. Mr. de la Madrid said, and with a tight monetary policy he expects the inflation rate to come down to about 80 per cent this year and about 40 per cent in 1984.

"It isn't enough. But when inflation reaches such levels it is very easy for it to go higher. It has not been easy going, but I have achieved understanding and solidarity from trade unions. We have to harmonise these two goals which are so essential in Mexico: Controlling inflation and at the same time keeping jobs," he said.

Most trade unions are closely allied to the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI), which has ruled Mexico for 54 years. In return for maintaining job levels, unions have accepted a 20 per cent cut in real wages this year.

Mr. de la Madrid points out that Mexico, with its high population growth (2 million new mouths to feed a year), cannot accept stagnation as a medium term option. "In the short term, however, we have to curb our growth, in order to clean up the economy and establish a new base for strong and sustained growth."

He hopes to restore Mexico's traditional economic growth rate of between five per cent and six per cent after 1985.

Mr. de la Madrid's climb to the top was not easy. His family moved from the provinces to Mexico City after his lawyer father was murdered when Sr. de la Madrid was aged two. He graduated in law and worked in the Finance Ministry's public credit department and the Pemex, the state oil concern.

A friend says he used to complain in private that "oil smelled" — referring to the notorious corruption in Pemex which he is now trying to root out. In 1975 Sr. de la Madrid became deputy finance minister and in 1979 planning minister.

Sr. de la Madrid says he is committed to eliminating financial populism. "There are so

many subsidies left over from the last government that we cannot tackle them all at the same time. We are very worried about the need to protect the prices of basic foodstuffs. When circumstances allow it, we will reduce more subsidies but we will try to do it at a slower rate than the increase in the minimum wage so that we can protect the purchasing power of the poor."

At the same time, he is trying to restore the shattered confidence of the private sector, where banks were nationalised last year. He said his decision to allow up to 34 per cent of the shares in the 58 nationalised banks to go back to the private sector was made because "in order to be efficient banks need to be in contact with all parts of society. We must avoid petty politics being involved in the running of banks."

Turning to international matters, the president criticised Washington's militaristic policy towards Central America.

He dismissed Washington's "domino theory" which asserts that Mexico is the plum for Soviet-inspired subversion in Central America. "We are worried by Central America and it is producing problems for us, like the flood of refugees seeking asylum in Mexico. But we are a nationalistic people and have strong institutions."

He said Mexico, the world's fourth largest oil producer, was not going to join the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries. But it would continue to co-operate with all producers to "stabilise the market." — The Financial Times

Minority British Liberals face inter-party turmoil threat

By Graham Stewart
 Reuter

LONDON — A spreading revolt in Britain's Minority Liberal Party against the one-man leadership of David Steel could damage his prospects of ever becoming prime minister.

A challenge by Liberal activists to curb what they see as Mr. Steel's dictatorial style has sent tremors through the party just when it looks like emerging from nearly 70 years in the political wilderness.

Mr. Steel, an urbane 45-year-old Scot who has led the party for the last seven years, has twice in the past month threatened to resign if he cannot call the shots.

Political commentators agree that Mr. Steel has not handled the discord with his usual finesse and

have raised doubts about his political future.

Furthermore a split could endanger the party's promising electoral alliance with the fledgling Social Democrats because some Liberals are not as keen as Mr. Steel about an eventual merger.

Any serious weakening of Mr. Steel's position would also play into the hands of Social Democratic Party (SDP) leader David Owen because it would strengthen his claim to be prime minister if the alliance were to win the next general election.

Mr. Owen, a former foreign secretary who defected from the Labour Party to help found the Social Democrats two years ago, has made no secret of his ambition to get to 10 Downing Street — the prime minister's official residence.

Mr. Steel never seriously entertained any such notion until the general election last June, when Conservative Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher was given tenure for five more years.

The alliance gained 25 per cent of the popular vote but, because of the polling system favouring the big parties, picked up only 23 of the 650 seats in parliament.

The Liberals, with a better party organisation, won 17 of the seats and Mr. Steel enhanced his stature by outshining his alliance co-leader Roy Jenkins on the campaign hustings.

Mr. Jenkins promptly bowed out and Mr. Owen was elected unopposed.

The Labour Party, damaged by three years of internal feuds, suffered its worst drubbing for more than 50 years and its veteran leader Michael Foot announced he

too was quitting.

Possible substitute

Mr. Steel, who brought the Liberals back to prominence from the dark days when former leader Jeremy Thorpe was embroiled in homosexual allegations, was the only opposition party boss to survive the elections.

Political pundits speculated that if the nation turned against Mrs. Thatcher's strong right-wing government and the Labour Party continued its leftward drift out of the political mainstream, the next election could bring the alliance to power.

The rise of the alliance was confirmed when the last opinion poll showed it displacing Labour at number two spot in the popularity stakes. And the Liberals almost wrested a safe seat from the Con-

servatives in a parliamentary by-election.

But then things started to go wrong. Mr. Steel shocked his colleagues by announcing he was taking a two-month break from politics because he was worn out by the campaign.

His friends put around the story that he was suffering from depression brought on by a virus. But his doctor denied this.

Then young Liberals who considered him too autocratic put forward a motion for the party conference from Sept. 19-24 to remove his veto over what goes into the party manifesto.

Liberal officials doubt the conference will vote to strip Steel of his veto and expect him to ride out the storm because there is no obvious successor.

Mr. Steel threatened to quit

after the motion was put forward, insisting on the right to scrub policies like unilateral nuclear disarmament which he deemed unpalatable to the electorate.

The revolt spread when three Liberal members of parliament, led by Cyril Smith, called for a more democratic leadership structure and urged him to appoint a deputy.

Mr. Steel lashed out uncharacteristically at party rebels in a letter to Liberal parliamentarians, accusing some elements of sabotage and again threatening to resign unless Liberals showed they were interested in attaining power.

The letter — leaked to the press — provoked ire in the party and unprecedented criticism of Mr. Steel. "He's throwing away brownie points," said Liberal M.P. David Penhaligon.

Tangshan overcomes 1976 tragic earthquake disaster

By Chen Fang

PEKING — Nearly seven years after a terrible earthquake destroyed most of the north China industrial city of Tangshan on July 28, 1976, the after-effects of the natural disaster can still be found in all parts of the city.

Along the two-mile bus route from the railway station to the municipal government building, people live in houses or work in shops in "quake-proof shelters" — makeshift houses built of bricks in the lower part of the wall and of whitewashed mud and reeds in the upper part. Many stones are placed on the roofs to prevent the asphalt-coated felt from being blown away by a windstorm.

However, walking a few minutes from the municipal government westward to reach a 50-metre-wide avenue, the Jianshe (reconstruction) Road, rows of four to six-storey houses in pink, yellow, green or brown colour stand one block after another, complete with new buildings for schools, shops, kindergartens and lawns for each sub-district of 5,000 to 8,000 population.

The 11-storey Tangshan Hotel on the road was opened in April to serve as a government hotel temporarily and a tourist hotel in the near future. Under construction on one side of it is a cinema, while on the other, a six-storey building which has been

completed for the number two Municipal Hospital which started to receive in- and out-patients late last year.

About 110,000 families, or half of the city's total families, have moved into such reinforced concrete multi-storey housing estates, which have been designed to resist earthquakes of high intensity, according to Wang Lin, deputy director of the Tangshan Reconstruction Command.

"The earth tremor devastated over 90 per cent of our homes and took a toll of 242,000 lives in the whole region, including 145,000 in the city proper. It has not been easy to build a brand new city from the ruins," he said.

After the quake, about half a year was spent in building 400,000 rooms in quake-proof shelters with the help of the army. The shelters made it possible for some 600,000 survivors to get through the winter of 1976-77. It took a whole year to gather the geological data, investigate the economic and social problems, weigh the pros and cons and then work out a general programme to re-design and rebuild the city.

By 1978, 100,000 building workers were drawn from the city and other parts of Hebei province, and architects from Peking, Shanghai and other cities came to help design the houses, roads and bridges. Full-scale construction of the new city started in early 1979.

Up to the end of 1982, 11.94 million square metres of buildings had been completed in four years, 7 million square metres of which are residential houses. This can only accommodate half as many as are needed. The reason is that the total number of families has increased to 220,000, with a city-wide population of 820,000, much bigger than the total quake survivors. The increase has been due to the natural growth in the past years, more young people attaining marriage age, newly recruited factory and other workers to replace the deceased and construction workers who came to rebuild.

"I am happy with my two-room flat for my family of four — my wife, two children and I," said a miner who works at the Kailuan colliery. "The house rent is only 1.5 yuan, while I earn more than 100 yuan a month in wages and bonus. The house, with private toilet and kitchen, is better and larger than the house we lived in before the quake."

"I still have to put up with a two-room anti-quake shelter," said a 42-year-old government employee who lives in a district south of the Peking-Shanghai railway line, which passes through the city.

The reconstruction programme calls for new housing to be built step by step, starting from the outskirts of the old city north of the

railway and gradually moving the nearby residents to new houses and dismantling their temporary shelters in order to acquire land space for the next rows of new houses.

He lost his wife in the quake and remarried a woman who lost her husband. He said he now leads a happy family life with his second wife and the two sons she brought with her, but the children "are too shy to call me daddy."

According to a survey by the Tangshan Women's Association, most of the remarried couples are getting along well put a sizable number of them, estimated at 25 per cent, have encountered troubles. The difficulties mainly arise from the strained relations between step-fathers or step-mothers and the children, which then lead to quarrels between husband and wife. Every remarriage after the quake is not only a union between a man and a woman but a union between two families involving the children and even mother-or-father-in-laws. Family relations thus are much more complicated than a simple marriage between a young man and a young woman.

Women's organisations and the local press have cited those women who have handled such family relations well and called on other families to learn from them. Selflessness, mutual help and accommodation are the ingredients for success.

Over 2,600 children were orphaned in the quake. At first, some of them were looked after by state-run orphanages, some by their relatives and some by neighbourhood committees with their living expenses paid by the government. Now most of them have grown up and are working in the job units where their fathers or mothers worked before the quake.

Tangshan's industry is now in full operation. The total industrial output value in 1982 was 2.9 billion yuan, 25 per cent more than in

1975, the year before the quake. The Tangshan Iron and Steel Plant has been expanded and a new power plant was put into operation in 1979. A new satellite town is being built 25 kilometres north of the old city proper to accommodate some of the factories scheduled to be moved out of the city. A cotton textile mill and a dyeing and printing mill are now in operation at the town and a cement factory will soon start trial operations to replace the existing

one in the city. The city's steel, cement, power and building material factories have contributed a big share in rebuilding Tangshan.

When interviewed, a woman who lost her husband and now lives in an anti-quake shelter with her only son said: "Tangshan had been built into an industrial city by diligent labour over a century and more, but the earthquake destroyed it in a matter of minutes. It is impossible to rebuild the city completely in a few years. Some

years ago when we recalled the death of our loved ones, we grieved deeply. Now the grief has lessened, and we think more about how to speed up the reconstruction of the city."

Many of those who still live in the makeshift houses like to visit the districts where new buildings have sprung up. They believe that they will soon move to such new quake-resistant housing estates in the next few years. — China features



The ruins of a corner of the city of Tangshan seven days after the earthquake on July 28, 1976.



New housing estates built after the quake in Tangshan

History seeps from the old walls of Confucius' hometown

By Shi Song

PEKING — China's greatest ancient philosopher has come in from the cold.

Confucius — a contemporary of Socrates and the Buddha in that extraordinary century which saw the birth of three of the world's great ethical systems — laid down the teachings which for most of the last 2,400 years inspired Chinese government, law, human relations and personal values.

Until the early 20th century, students commonly spent decades studying Confucius' precepts, and the best rose to become the scholar-elite which ruled the nation until the Republican Revolution of 1911.

Since then, and especially after the May 4 Movement of 1919, Confucianism was regarded by some scholars as an oppressive legacy of feudal times. During the

ten-year Cultural Revolution (1966-1976), it was fiercely denounced as "the root of all evils."

Since the downfall of Jiang Qing and her "Gang of Four" in 1976, however, the sage has been cautiously reclaimed from the dustbin of history.

In a forum held last April at Qufu, the sage's hometown in eastern China, 180 scholars probed Confucius' positive and negative effects on Chinese culture, and discussed the meaning of his heritage for modern-day China. The ancient scholar's "rehabilitation" was symbolized recently by the appointment of his 76th generation direct descendant, Kong Demao, to the national committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, an advisory body, in a group of members "whose forefathers have benefited the nation."

Confucius' thought may in past

times have mostly been the professional preserve of the few, but his home and the wealth of classical relics it contains have become an ever more popular attraction for the masses of post-Confucian China.

History literally seeps from the old red walls of Qufu, a sleepy provincial city of half a million. Twenty per cent of the people in the surrounding county even today bear the surname "Kong", marking them as descendants of the sage, who in China is known as Kong Fu Zi.

The town is dominated by the majestic Temple of Confucius, whose nine grand courtyards cover a total of 40 hectares. In all, the temple contains 466 halls, pavilions and galleries. Founded only one year after the sage's death in 479 B.C., on the site of his home, the temple was repaired and enlarged many times during

succeeding dynasties. It is believed to be the oldest temple in continuous use in China.

Modern Chinese scholars may hold differing views as to the thinking of Confucius in other fields, but all agree that he was a great educator. He ran the first large private school — which at one point numbered 3,000 students — and advocated that education be given to the sons of aristocrats and commoners alike. And many of his techniques are still employed today. He is said to have given lectures from a small terrace surrounded by apricot trees — the "Apricot Altar," which is still today enshrined in a grove of apricot trees.

The Guwenge, or library, dates from 1191 and is one of the ten most famous surviving ancient wooden buildings in China. It contains a collection of imperial calligraphy and rare books presented

by emperors, and others. The building is shortly to be restored to its former grandeur by specially-trained carpenters, masons and wood-carvers. Glazed tiles for the roof will come from a local kiln established during the Ming dynasty (1368-1644).

The government also plans to replace the statues of Confucius and 17 of his disciples, which long stood in the main hall and were destroyed during the Cultural Revolution. In front of the hall rise ten marble pillars, each sculpted with a pair of writing dragons surrounded by clouds and striving for a pearl, so finely carved that they are considered to exceed those in the imperial palace in artistic value.

In the precincts of the temple stands a tree believed to have been planted by Confucius himself. Records say that it withered several times, but its roots never died.

There is also a well supposed to have been used by Confucius.

Just east of the temple lies the Kong family mansion. The present buildings date from the 16th century. With 460 halls, parlours, shrines and other rooms, it is China's largest and most luxurious aristocratic mansion. As a result of the imperial protection the family enjoyed, the mansion survived the wars and rebellions which shook the rest of China over the centuries.

During the Han Dynasty (206 B.C.-220 A.D.), the throne established Confucianism as the state orthodoxy. Since then, many posthumous titles were granted to Confucius, and imperial favours were persistently granted to his descendants well into the 20th century.

Throughout the centuries, the Kong family mansion was ex-

empted from taxes and corvée. The Duke of Kong led a miniature feudal state, with officials to collect land rents, organise sacrificial rites for the sage, make laws, and guard the temple and graveyard.

During the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911), the Kong family mansion owned hundreds of thousands of hectares of farmland in Shandong and four neighbouring provinces. Most of it gifts from the imperial court. When the 76th generation Duke, Kong Lingyi, lived in the mansion in the early 20th century, he was lord over not just thousands of tenant farmers, but some 700 hereditary house slaves as well.

Inside the mansion clothes dating from as long ago as the Yuan Dynasty (1271-1368) are on display. There is also a rich collection of bronzes, paintings and calligraphy, jade and ivory carvings.

ancient embroidery and silks. The most precious collection, however, consists of a 10,000-piece family archives, a wealth of personalised historical data unrivalled in China.

Confucius' tomb lies in the family's graveyard, a few kilometers north of the temple and the Kong mansion. Covering 200 hectares overgrown with ancient trees and surrounded by a 7.5-kilometre wall, it is China's largest family burial ground. More than two millennia of Confucius' direct descendants lie buried around the large mound of earth that is his tomb. Nearby are the tombs of the sage's son, Kong Li, and grandson, Kong Ji.

In 1982, more than one million tourists, including 5,000 from dozens of foreign countries, visited this small town which is so rich in cultural relics. — China features

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SPORTS

Noah's trick shot helps him into quarter-finals

NEW YORK (R) — The creative racket of Yannick Noah of France brought a crowd of 20,670 to its feet in admiration and applause at the U.S. National Tennis Centre on Tuesday with a tennis shot to end them all.

It helped to propel Noah into the quarter-finals of the U.S. Open Tennis Championships and it also helped to end the hopes of 16-year-old American amateur Aaron Krickstein, the youngest player to reach the fourth round of a Grand Prix tournament.

The trick shot came at a vital time in their match, with Noah leading 2-1 in a second set tie-breaker having won the first set. Krickstein lofted a lob deep into

the corner that sent the French open champion souring back. With his back to the net, Noah hit the ball the only way he could — between his legs — and then recovered in time to answer Krickstein's volley with a scorching forehand cross-court winner.

Noah, who eventually won 6-3, 7-6, 6-3, was joined in the quarter-finals by second-seeded Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia, fifth-seeded Mats Wilander of Sweden and ninth-seeded Jimmy Arias of the United States.

Lendl won his fourth consecutive straight-sets victory, beating 12th-seeded Johan Kriek of the United States 6-2, 6-4, 6-1. Wilander routed Andres Gomez

of Ecuador 6-2, 6-1, 6-2 and Arias battled back to beat Joachim Nystrom of Sweden 3-6, 6-3, 3-6, 6-4, 6-4.

In the women's singles on a sweltering day when court-side temperatures reached 110 degrees Fahrenheit (43.3 C), top seed Martina Navratilova and fifth-seeded Pam Shriver, her doubles partner, won in straight sets to set up a semi-final meeting.

Navratilova, aiming for her first U.S. Open singles title, won her fourth successive match in less than an hour by eliminating seventh seed Sylvia Hanika of West Germany 6-0, 6-3 in 48 minutes. Shriver, who beat Navratilova

in the quarter-finals last year, knocked out third-seeded Andrea Jaeger of the United States 7-6, 6-3.

But for the fans the day belonged to Noah, who dazzled them with his ability to improvise shots. After his spectacular trick shot, he went on to take the tiebreaker 7-2 and wrapped up the match by breaking Krickstein's service in the third game and holding his own service.

Noah said afterwards of his between-the-legs effort: "I'm used to doing that in practice when you're trying to have some fun. But you have to be careful. It can be dangerous."

West Ham keep on winning

LONDON (R) — English first division leaders West Ham Tuesday night maintained their 100 per cent league record with a victory over bottom club Leicester — but had to come from behind to win 3-1.

Promoted Leicester, without a point or a goal from their first three games, threatened an upset when Gary Linkeker, their leading scorer last season, put them ahead after eight minutes.

But Steve Walford equalised nine minutes later and Dave Swindlehurst and Tony Cottee sealed Leicester's fate with goals in the first five minutes of the second

half.

Nearest challengers Ipswich also confirmed their early season potential by beating Everton 3-0 at home and Manchester United, tipped as the side most likely to dethrone Liverpool as champions, looked championship material in beating Arsenal 3-2 away.

Liverpool, still struggling to find the magic touch which left the rest of the division trailing in their wake last season, were denied a win over Southampton by a late goal by former England defender Mick Mills. He cancelled out a 62nd minute effort by Welsh international striker Ian Rush.

Ovett may clash with Cram

LONDON (R) — Britons Steve Ovett and Steve Cram, world record-holder and world champion respectively over 1,500 metres, could clash over a mile here on Friday — if Ovett is willing to face his younger rival.

Ovett, who regained the record with a time of three minutes 30.77 seconds in Rieti, Italy, last Sunday after losing it a week earlier to U.S.-based South African Sydney Maree, has said he plans to attack the world mile mark held by a third Briton, Sebastian Coe.

Cram, who won his world title in Helsinki last month, is also entered for the mile at Crystal Palace and said on Tuesday: "I see no reason to switch to another event. I am prepared to face Ovett on

Friday and I would love it if he accepted an invitation to run against me in another mile week."

Jordan to play Kuwait

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordanian National soccer team Moonday left Jordan to Qatar to play a match with the Qatar national team on Thursday Sept. 9 as part of the Los Angeles Olympic knockouts.

The Jordanian national team will also travel to Kuwait later to have a match with the Kuwait national team on September 15. Jordan's group also includes Syria who beat Jordan in both home and away legs in August.

SOGELERG CO. - AMMAN BRANCH BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 1982

AUDITORS' REPORT

We have examined the Balance Sheet of SOGELERG CO. AMMAN BRANCH (Foreign Limited Co.) as at 31st December, 1982, and the related Deferred Expenses Statement for the year then ended, and have obtained the information and explanations which we required for the purposes of our audit.

Our Examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

In our opinion, and according to the books and vouchers of the Company, and the information and explanations given to us, the accompanying Balance Sheet

present fairly the financial position of SOGELERG Co. — AMMAN BRANCH as at 31st December 1982.

Amman, 13th August, 1983

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PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS & AUDITORS

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS

Cash in hand
Cash at Arab Bank
Total Current Assets
Sogelerg - France

FIXED ASSETS

Car
Less: Depreciation
Total Fixed Assets
Total Assets

LIABILITIES

Registered Capital in Jordan
Accrued Expenses (Note 4)
SOCIAL SECURITY CORPORATION PROJECT

Amounts Received from Social Security Corporation to date
Less: Expenses carried forward to 1983
Total Liabilities

The attached Notes to the Financial Statements form an integral part of these Statements

SITE RESIDENT ENGINEER

	J.D.	Fils	J.D.	Fils
Cash in hand	121	840		
Cash at Arab Bank	24098	517		
Total Current Assets			24220	367
Sogelerg - France			510	083
Car	4500	000		
Less: Depreciation	1000	000		
Total Fixed Assets			3500	000
Total Assets			28230	440
Registered Capital in Jordan			10000	000
Accrued Expenses (Note 4)			17000	000
SOCIAL SECURITY CORPORATION PROJECT				
Amounts Received from Social Security Corporation to date	90547	590		
Less: Expenses carried forward to 1983	88317	150	1230	440
Total Liabilities			28230	440

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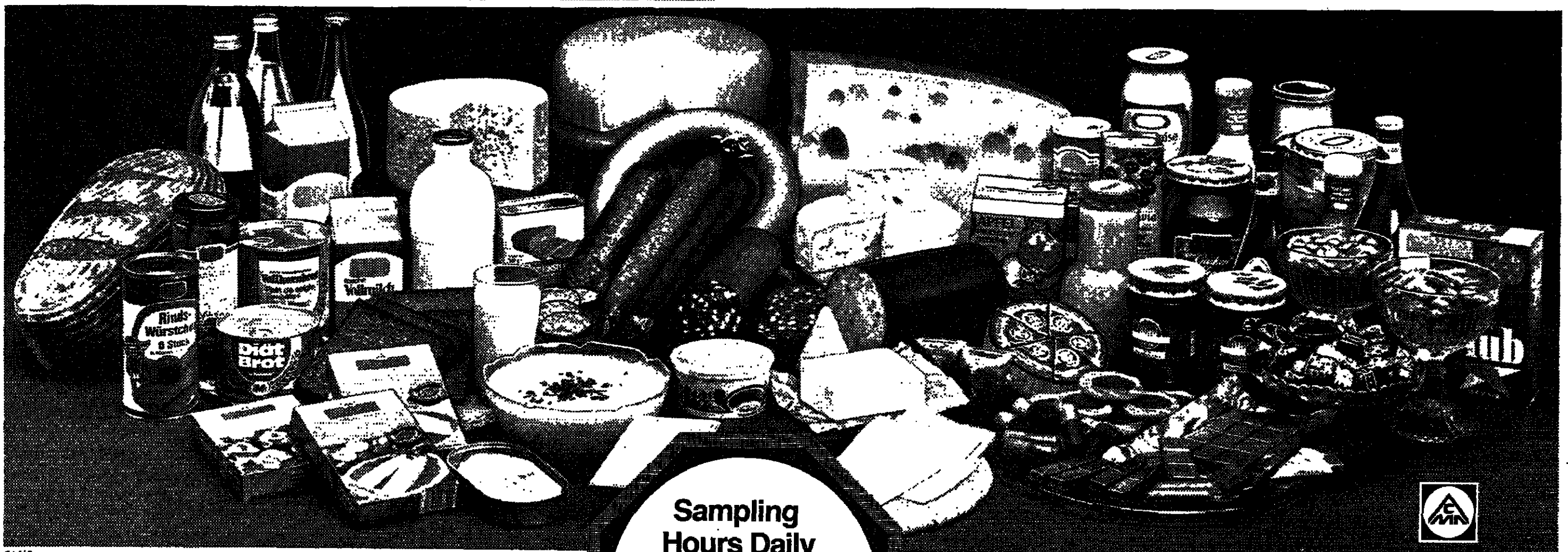
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ECONOMY

U.K. unions soften stance

BLACKPOOL, England (R) — Britain's trade unions, acknowledging the Labour movement's crushing defeat in last June's general election, have softened their approach to Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Conservative government.

The annual conference of the Trades Union Congress (TUC) decided Tuesday to open talks with Mrs. Thatcher's tough employment minister, Mr. Norman Tebbit, about government plans for legislation affecting the unions.

Rightwing leaders like Mr. Terry Duffy of the engineering workers urged it as an effort to come to terms with reality. Leftwingers like miners' president Mr. Arthur Scargill said the TUC would only be discussing with the hangman the quality of the rope to be used in its own execution.

But delegates representing 10.5 million members voted by a margin of almost two-to-one to end the TUC's 18-month refusal to deal with Mr. Tebbit.

Voting for the 51-member general council also marked a political shift Tuesday.

Several leftwingers lost their seats and the right established its firmest control for years in the TUC's most powerful committee.

China lifts ban on imports of U.S. agricultural products, eases relations

PEKING (R) — China lifted a ban on imports of U.S. agricultural products Wednesday in a move diplomatic sources said would set the seal on better Sino-U.S. relations.

But the sources said there was a growing possibility that Peking would not honour a bilateral grain pact.

In January, China slapped an embargo on U.S. cotton, soybean and chemical fibres and planned to reduce purchases of other U.S. agricultural goods in response to a decision by Washington to halt Chinese textile imports.

Wednesday's reversal by China's ministry for foreign economic relations and trade followed the signing of a new Sino-U.S. textile agreement in Geneva last month.

The diplomatic sources said the lifting of the ban may have come too late to let China fulfil its minimum obligations under a long-term grain agreement with Washington under which it must buy more than three million tonnes of grain by the end of the year.

The sources said China last week made a large purchase in the U.S. but previously this year had

bought only 2.6 million tonnes, far less than the six million tonne minimum.

While Peking's ban was in force it had turned increasingly to Argentina, Canada, Australia and France for grain purchases.

A foreign ministry spokesman told reporters Wednesday China intended to buy more U.S. agricultural goods, including grain.

But unless China made unrealistic purchases of U.S. grain in the next few months it might miss the minimum target by one million tonnes, the sources said.

Under the terms of the pact,

Peking and Washington would then have to hold formal talks on the problem.

Lifting the import ban has removed the last major obstacle to bilateral trade after Washington said in June it would end most restrictions on exports of high technology to China.

At the end of last month, leading statesman Mr. Deng Xiaoping told the late Henry Jackson that bilateral ties had begun to show a distinct improvement.

But he warned the U.S. that real progress depended on a solution to the issue of U.S. arms sales to Taiwan, which Peking sees as an affront to its sovereignty.

The embargoes imposed by the two countries on bilateral trade hit both hard.

Total Sino-U.S. trade in the first half of the year fell 23.7 per cent to

\$2.1 billion compared with the same period last year.

U.S. wheat sales dropped 70.6 per cent, cotton sales 94.4 per cent, and no soybeans were sold to China at all.

Chinese textile exports to the U.S. last year rose 20 per cent from 1981.

The new five-year agreement cuts this to 3.5 per cent a year, though inflation and a move to higher quality should mean the total value will rise from the 1982 figure of \$750 million, trade sources said.

The anger of U.S. textile manufacturers at rising imports from China sparked the dispute.

They also disapproved of the latest agreement but it was greeted with relief by U.S. farmers who had been losing millions of dollars because of the embargoes.

THE Daily Crossword By James R. Burns

ACROSS

- 1 Rhine city; var.
- 6 Naval ratings, for short
- 10 Homburga
- 14 Schubert or Allen's
- 15 Actress Lee of yore
- 16 Space
- 17 Permission
- 18 Tied up
- 19 Coin
- 20 Fallen
- 22 Dastardly
- 23 "— of Eden"
- 24 Emertained
- 26 Bligh's command

DOWN

- 30 Better qualified
- 32 English queen
- 33 Room in Madrid
- 35 Spy
- 36 Sequoia
- 41 Changed
- 43 Rugby's Tom
- 44 Man or Capri
- 46 Sewer
- 47 Lasso
- 49 Raymond or Hone
- 51 City in China
- 54 Beat badly
- 56 Iraq's adversary

DOWN

- 1 Like a pilgrim
- 2 Away from wind
- 3 Serb or Croat
- 4 Son of Jacob
- 5 Grommet
- 6 Musical signs
- 7 Critically important
- 8 Butterine
- 9 Kind of footwear
- 10 Sandwiches for some
- 11 Opera highlights
- 12 Taut
- 13 Gratiified

21 Final authority

25 Substance

26 Pointed remark

27 Unique person

28 Loosen

29 Innovation in prunes?

31 Phoenician god

34 Mine entrance

36 Angers

37 Smooth-sounding

38 Whirl

40 From here — (henceforth)

42 Monkey-like mammal

45 Burdened

46 Schedule

50 Monastery heads

51 Stacked

52 Poetic Muse

53 Gold measure

55 Clarinets, e.g.

58 German song

59 Send out

60 Latest thing

61 Mother of Zeus

62 Playground

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

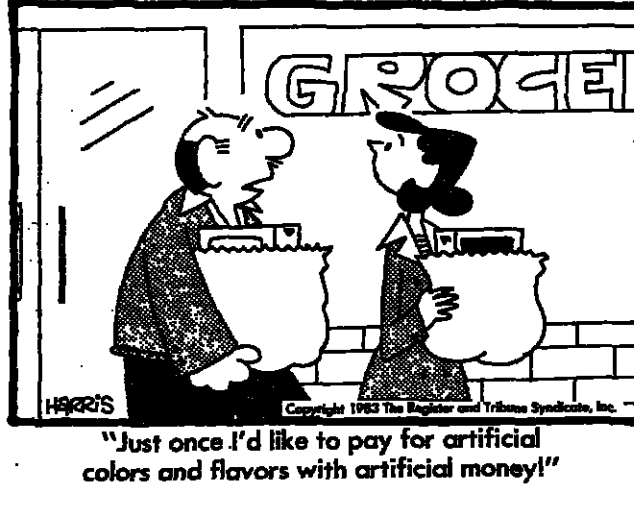
ACROSS: 1. RHEIN, 6. NAVAL, 10. HOMBURG, 14. SCHUBERT, 15. LEE, 16. SPACE, 17. PERMISSION, 18. TIED UP, 19. COIN, 20. FALLEN, 22. DASTARDLY, 23. OF EDEN, 24. EMERTAINED, 26. BLIGH'S, 30. BETTER, 32. ENGLISH, 33. ROOM, 35. SPY, 36. SEQUOIA, 41. CHANGED, 43. RUGBY, 44. MAN, 46. SEWER, 47. LASSO, 49. RAYMOND, 51. CITY, 54. BEAT, 56. IRAQ, 57. WINE, 59. SEND, 60. LATEST, 61. MOTHER, 62. PLAYGROUND.

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris

"Just once I'd like to pay for artificial colors and flavors with artificial money!"

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THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

INCCY

VENAH

SPOCER

EMBURP

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: MAGIC VAGUE CRAFTY NAUSEA
Answer: What a person who loses his head would have difficulty doing — SAVING FACE

Continuing dollar strength is seen as threat to fragile world recovery

LONDON (R) — The almighty dollar, expected to remain strong for some time, is proving a persistent worry for government economic strategists, who fear that it could snuff out the world's fragile economic recovery.

The dollar has risen by about 10 per cent against other major currencies since the beginning of 1983, after a trade-weighted rise of 31 per cent between 1980 and 1982.

Despite occasional forecasts that it must soon fall because the U.S. trade deficit is soaring and American goods are uncompetitive, it is still around its highest for nearly 10 years at about 2.70 West German marks.

Increased tension over the Korean airliner drama saw money briefly flood into the dollar earlier this month, once again proving its attraction as a safe haven.

With no respite in sight, governments face a dilemma in responding to the firm dollar.

If they allow their currencies to continue falling against it they risk higher inflation at home, for many imports including oil are priced in dollars.

If governments with large bud-

get deficits try to halt the dollar's rise by increasing interest rates to bring them closer to U.S. rates, they cannot afford to ease taxes to get their economies moving faster.

The firm dollar has one benefit — countries exporting to the United States now find their products are more competitive on the American market.

But the main gripe of America's Western allies and developing countries is the high U.S. interest rates that are keeping the dollar firm.

Western Europe and Japan find that the U.S. rates keep their own rates at a crippling level and therefore choke off economic growth.

Mr. Karl Otto Poehl, president of the Bundesbank, the West German central bank, recently told Fortune magazine that the present weakness of the mark was adding to inflationary pressures, and added: "I do ask myself if sustained global recovery is possible if U.S. interest rates stay so high."

Developing countries, in hock to international banks for billions of dollars, are finding it increasingly difficult to pay back loans as interest payments swallow up more and more.

"We expect U.S. interest rates to be stable until the U.S. elections next year, so the dollar will remain strong," predicts Mr. Jean-Michel Six, chief economist here for Dri Europe.

A top Japanese economist likens the impact of the dollar's rise to a body-blow in a boxing match. "It hurts you gradually over a long period," says Mr. Kosaku Furuta, chief economist at Dai-ichi Kangyo Bank.

Most countries would gladly exchange Japan's problems for their own, but Japan is one of the majority of nations which are dependent on imported oil, denominated in dollars.

The benefits of the oil price cut by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) last March are likely to be wiped out by the dollar's rise, according to an economist at Japan's Economic Planning Agency.

Within the European Community, where all countries but Britain must import oil, higher oil costs are also a major factor in a bleak picture.

The strong dollar is particularly troublesome for the ailing French economy, saddled with a 9.4 per

cent inflation rate and a massive trade deficit.

The government recently estimated that the stronger dollar had added 0.3 to 0.4 percentage points to the inflation rate.

The French government is determined to ride out the dollar storm. "It now accepts that the dollar will remain a major headache until the Reagan administration tackles its budget deficit," according to a source close to the French Finance Minister Jacques Delors.

That deficit, projected to remain close to a staggering \$200 billion for the next couple of years, will need to be financed by offering investors sufficiently high interest rates and these high interest rates will continue to buoy the dollar.

For Europe, the prospect of a firm dollar for the foreseeable future is disturbing but over the past year the Europeans have shown that they can live with it, says one foreign exchange analyst here.

For the developing world, a strong dollar is not only disturbing, it may be devastating, analysts say.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Wednesday's initial markup in share, in response to the sharp rise on Wall Street Tuesday, failed to attract much demand and most issues were easier on balance, dealers said. At 1400 GMT the F.T. index was down 3.1 at 711.4.

Government bonds showed net gains ranging to about ¼ point amid confusion about the exhaustion of official supplies of the treasury 12 per cent 1995 stock. Dealer added.

ICI was 8p off at 538 among leaders, gold shares were dull. North American stocks closed mixed.

BICC finished 10p higher at 228 after interim results and FMC was up 4p at 448 following full year results.

P and O was unchanged at 212p following half year profits generally in line with market expectations but Croda ended down 9p at 101 after its half year figures.

Sun Alliance and Phoenix assurance also reported interim results and were down 2p and 25p respectively at 314 and 12½ stg. EXCO INTL recovered 15p to 543 having weakened Tuesday on rights issue news.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One sterling	1.4942/52	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.2313/16	Canadian dollars
	2.6920/30	West German marks
	3.0130/30	Dutch guilders
	2.1845/55	Swiss francs
	54.10/14	Belgian francs
	8.1025/55	French francs
	1606.25/1607.25	Italian lire
	246.10/20	Japanese yen
	7.9200/9230	Swedish crowns
	7.4840/4870	Norwegian crowns
	9.6690/6720	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	412.00/413.00	U.S. dollars

Peanuts

ALL MY LIFE I HAVE SEARCHED FOR CALMNESS

IT WAS A DIFFICULT STRUGGLE, BUT IT WAS WORTH IT. NOW I HAVE A BEAUTIFUL INNER PEACE

THERE IS NOTHING ANYONE CAN SAY OR DO THAT CAN DISTURB MY CALMNESS...

SCHOOL STARTS NEXT WEEK

AAUGH!

Mutt 'n' Jeff

JEFF, I JUST MADE A DATE FOR YOU WITH LENA, A GIRL BASKETBALL PLAYER! YOU DID?

THERE SHE IS NOW! YOU ANSWER IT!

OUR ANNIVERSARY — HE REMEMBERED!

Andy Capp

OUR ANNIVERSARY — HE REMEMBERED!

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1983

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A great opportunity is present today and tonight to work out and to solve any problems that you have with any other persons, so put on your most radiant smile and then discuss things.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Good day to contact those with whom you have partnerships or want to make your associates and discuss matters wisely.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Fellow workers can be made to understand your plans and be willing to help you carry through with them now.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Good day to get into the amusements you like or plan for them in the near future. Do something different but proper.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Do whatever you can to bring more harmony and charm within your home and be happier there.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Show daily allies that you are grateful for their alliance and assistance and you can gain greater co-operation from them.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Adding embellishments to your home and practical appliances can make it more comfortable and valuable now.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You are highly magnetic today and should see as many persons as you can and gain favors you need.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Bigwigs will give you backing you need for projects if you approach them tactfully today. Then be happy with your loved one.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Be more trusting of friends and they can help you if you don't act in such an independent way.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Go to bigwigs in a straightforward manner and gain favors from them that you need. Career affairs can work out well.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You get lots of ideas today, but pick out the best and put them in motion without delay. Make new contacts.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Follow your intuition which is good now and put new ideas to work that can aid you in your interests.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will be one of those delightful young persons who can be most successful in life provided there is enough encouragement given early in life and would do well in political life of magnitude. So be sure that enough education is given.

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1983

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Think as big as you can now about ambitious plans which are yours and then you will be able to take them to those who can help you make them a success and get their support and backing.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Go to one whom you trust and show you have faith in him or her, and gain good will and support. Later join in some entertainment with others.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Get your work done more efficiently than usual and gain more benefits in the future. Be particularly careful in any precision work.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You are gifted and have many admirers so co-ordinate your efforts for more mutual profit. Later, get together for amusements.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) If you want more harmony at home, give praise to kin instead of criticizing them so much. Shop around for the home.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Show your finest capabilities to daily allies and gain their approval and co-operation. State your magnanimous ideas that are workable.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Have those talks with persons of vision and you know how to become more prosperous in the near future.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You can gain personal wishes very easily today, so go after them with alacrity. You can also gain support for some project.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Good day for expanding so that you can achieve the greatest amount of success possible. Please those in authority.

SATURNARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Be with a group of friends and have a delightful time. Be easy on your pocketbook, though. Drive carefully today.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You have an opportunity to become more successful now, so apply yourself seriously and get results.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Good day to plan that trip, whether for personal or business reasons, or both. You have good intuition today.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Any business talks should bring good results today. Then plan as much time as possible to be with the one you love.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will be one of those delightful young persons who will be liked by all and sundry and will also be very cooperative and right through the adult life, and should have a fine education, since much success is possible.

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

WORLD

Official story accepted by most Muscovites

MOSCOW (R) — Muscovites questioned by Western reporters believe the official account of the fate of the South Korean jumbo jet lost a week ago with 269 people aboard.

Washington says a Soviet fighter shot down the Boeing 747 after it strayed off course.

The Kremlin said Tuesday its interceptors stopped the flight of the Korean airliner, a statement taken by the United States as an admission of responsibility.

The Soviet line was also taken by ordinary citizens when questioned by correspondents.

"Why ask me? It is all in the papers," one office worker said as he headed back to work in central Moscow.

A woman struggling down the stairs at a city market said she believed the U.S. had sent the plane as a provocation.

Waving his walking stick, an old man said: "I do not get mixed up in politics, but what was this plane doing way inside our territory?"

Younger people seemed to have a clearer idea of the outrage the incident had aroused in the West.

A teenager said he had heard on a foreign radio station that the plane had been a civil airliner and knew the death toll. "But the plane should have landed at the nearest Soviet airport as requested," he said.

Most people did not know 269 passengers had died when the plane plunged into the Sea of Japan. The Soviet media have so far given no casualty figure.

Some said they could not believe a Soviet fighter pilot could shoot down a plane knowing there were civilians on board.

"If he did, it must have been a dreadful mistake," a saleswoman in a toyshop said.

Echoing the official view that the U.S. had sent the plane on a spy mission, a young woman said it was a shame people had to die through someone else's scheming.

"We are not the guilty ones," she said.

A middle-aged woman grew angry at being quizzed. Referring to the two and a half hours before being vanishing, she bellowed: "We should have shot it down earlier."

One woman seemed genuinely upset: "People are people, we must bear some of the responsibility for this. We have all lived through this terrible incident."

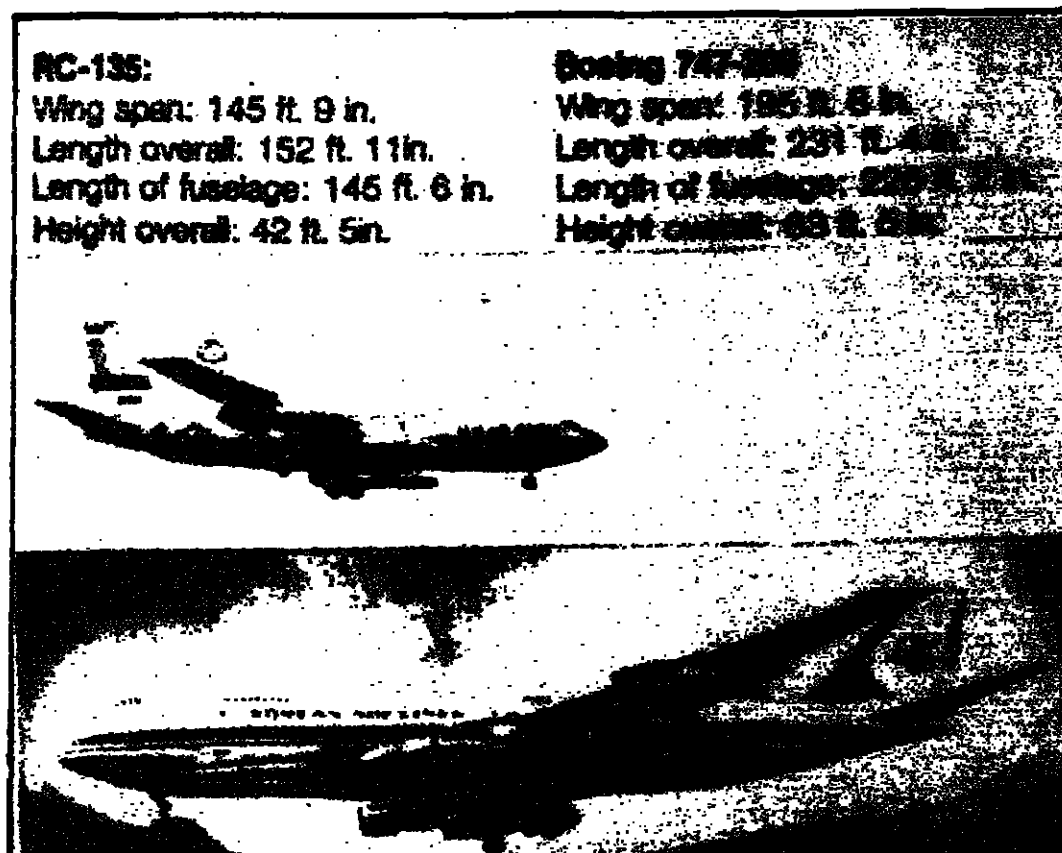
Critical Russians more in touch with Westerners said they were not surprised a Soviet plane had downed an unarmed civilian craft. "It was a simple military response," one disaffected girl student said.

Another said Soviet pilots would carry out orders unquestioningly, whatever the cost.

As in the West, the incident is dominating conversation at work and at home.

"Of course we are all talking about it, about this spy plane," the woman on the market steps said.

One young woman said: "It is an awful business. It is souring our relations with the West."



RC-135: Wing span: 145 ft. 9 in. Length overall: 152 ft. 11 in. Length of fuselage: 145 ft. 6 in. Height overall: 42 ft. 5 in.

Boeing 747-200: Wing span: 195 ft. 5 in. Length overall: 233 ft. 11 in. Length of fuselage: 201 ft. 11 in. Height overall: 63 ft. 5 in.

SPY AND CIVILIAN: Soviet sources have raised the possibility that the Korean Air Lines Boeing 747 may have been shot at by Soviet fighters

because it was mistaken for a U.S. reconnaissance plane, the RC-135. Both photos have been printed to the same scale. (A.P. Laserphoto)

Reactions to South Korean airliner incident diverge sharply within The 10

ATHENS (R) — Major differences have emerged within the European Community about how to react to the downing of the South Korean airliner, with Britain taking the hardest line and Greece the softest, informed sources disclosed Wednesday.

The issue came up at a meeting here on Monday of senior foreign ministry officials from the 10 member states, who considered making a joint community statement at the European security conference in Madrid, the sources said.

Greek Foreign Minister Ioannis Haralambopoulos, who as chairman of the community council is representing the 10 in Madrid, is now unlikely to make any reference there on behalf of the bloc to the airliner's loss last Wednesday.

While Britain had fully backed South Korean demands for an apology and explanation of the incident by Moscow, Greece had described even the mildest statement acceptable to its partners as too hard, the sources added.

Other states' positions were between the two, with several feeling that since the West had decided against any tough economic retaliations over the incident, a strong verbal condemnation of the Soviet Union was in order.

In Brussels, diplomats said Greek reluctance to roundly condemn Moscow had been the key element in blocking a joint response so far.

The diplomats said The Ten's foreign ministers would hold informal talks on the issue at the Madrid conference, possibly at a lunch scheduled for Thursday.

Most governments agreed on the need for strong condemnation of the Soviet action, along the lines of national statements already issued by several West European governments.

But Greece had rejected a text circulated at Monday's meeting and instead put forward another which criticised any attacks on civilian airlines but failed to mention the Soviet Union by name, the diplomats said.

Foreign ministers would hold detailed talks on the crisis at a meeting in Athens on Monday, but there was no certainty that a joint response would emerge, the diplomats said.

Aquino inquiry opens

MANILA (R) — A judicial inquiry into the murder of Filipino opposition leader Benigno Aquino opened formally Wednesday with a doctor describing massive head wounds the bullet caused.

Sen. Aquino was assassinated at Manila Airport on Aug. 21 while being escorted from an airliner which brought him home after three years of self-exile in the United States.

Police have said the killer, whom they identified as a notorious hired murderer called Rolando Galman, was at ground level.

However, Sen. Aquino's relatives and political allies have suggested that, as the bullet emerged from his lower jaw, the assassin may have been standing above him.

Dr. Bienvenido Munoz, a medical-legal officer of the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), said it was unlikely the gun was pointing downward when it fired the shot. He said Sen. Aquino's head could have been deflected into his neck, but this did not happen, he added.

Marcos minimises risk of military coup d'etat

MANILA (R) — President Ferdinand Marcos minimised the risk of a military takeover in the Philippines and assured bankers and businessmen that the assassination of opposition leader Benigno Aquino had not affected government stability, business sources said.

They also quoted him as saying he was not ill and was in full control of the government.

Rumours of a possible military coup and that Mr. Marcos was seriously ill or had fled the country swept Manila, especially the business community, the day after Mr. Aquino was killed on Aug. 21.

Mr. Marcos held a televised news conference that night to try to dispel them.

Tuesday the president told foreign and Filipino businessmen called to a presidential palace meeting with him: "If you are worried about the military, let me tell you that the tradition of the Philippines military is to subordinate itself to the civil government."

"The Philippines is one of the few countries where there has never been a coup d'etat by the military because the traditions of the military of the Philippines are deeply seated," he said.

Colombo says S. Indian state supports guerrillas

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lankan President Junius Jayawardene accused the South Indian state of Tamil Nadu of providing his country's separatist guerrillas with arms, men and propaganda.

Mr. Jayawardene told his party's parliamentary group Tuesday there was no nation in the world supporting the separatist movement. "It is only in Tamil Nadu alone help is sought and given by propaganda, arms and men," he said without elaborating.

Government spokesmen said earlier that Tamil Nadu was harbouring guerrillas from Sri Lanka.

The people of Tamil Nadu have close ethnic, cultural and religious ties with Sri Lankan Tamils.

Mr. Jayawardene referred to press reports that a person from Wales was training youths in Tamil Nadu to wage armed struggle in Sri Lanka and said the government had asked India and Britain for information about the alleged activities.

He said there were indications of an attempt in July to prepare for an uprising against the government through communal violence.

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Emanuela's parents issue dramatic call

ROME (R) — The parents of Emanuela Orlandi, the schoolgirl abducted over two months ago, issued a dramatic appeal to her kidnappers Tuesday to prove that she is still alive or, if not, to reveal where she is buried.

Emanuela's father, the girl's father, said in a message that if his daughter was dead, he and his family wanted to know where she was buried so they could go and pray by her grave.

Men claiming to have kidnapped the girl to try to obtain the release of Mehmet Ali Agca, the Turk jailed for shooting the Pope in May 1981, said in a tape-recorded message last Sunday that the case was "closed" without making clear what had happened to Emanuela.

The self-styled kidnappers have repeatedly demanded the release of Agca and have threatened further kidnappings.

In recent weeks police have received numerous calls saying Emanuela's body could be found in various parts of the country. They have all been followed up to no avail and hopes are now fading that the case will ever be solved.

India, Maldives sign agreement

NEW DELHI (R) — India and the Maldives Wednesday signed a cultural agreement aimed at developing bilateral cooperation in the fields of art, culture, archaeology, education, media, health and social welfare.

The accord was signed by Sheila Kaul, Indian minister of state for education, and Maldives Foreign Minister Fathulla Jameel on the first day of a state visit to India by Maldives President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom.

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Voting in referendum for Irish abortion bill started

DUBLIN (R) — Predominantly-Catholic Ireland Wednesday began voting in a referendum on writing a controversial ban on abortion into the constitution.

The 2.3-million-strong electorate headed for 41 polling centres around the country to vote on a constitutional amendment which polls predicted would be overwhelmingly approved.

Abortion is already outlawed in Ireland and the amendment would enshrine the ban in the constitution, thereby putting it beyond the reach of the Irish courts.

The referendum has been branded unnecessary, sectarian and potentially dangerous by critics and has divided political parties, families and generations.

The polls are due to close at 1900 hours GMT, counting begins Thursday morning and first results are expected in the early afternoon.

Irish constable killed

ARMAGH, Northern Ireland (R) — A guerrilla killed a policeman in Northern Ireland Tuesday night, three weeks before he was due to retire after 42 years service with the force, police said Wednesday.

Gunmen shot Constable John Wason, 61, at close range when he returned to his Armagh City home around midnight. They had kept a family in a neighbouring house hostage while waiting for him and then escaped in a car, a police spokesman said.

The policeman, one of the few Roman Catholics in the Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC), was its second longest serving officer in the uniformed branch.

The Irish National Liberation Army (INLA), one of the guerrilla groups fighting to end British rule in Northern Ireland, later said it carried out the shooting.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Demonstrators, police clash in Santiago

SANTIAGO (R) — Riot police backed by water cannon broke up a demonstration by a stone-throwing crowd along Santiago's main avenue Tuesday night. Witnesses saw several people arrested in the disturbances, which took three hours to put down. Many in the crowd shouted slogans in support of a day of protest called for Thursday by Chile's opposition political parties in a bid to force the resignation of President Augusto Pinochet. They also chanted the name of Salvador Allende, the Marxist president overthrown and killed in a military coup 10 years ago on Sunday.

Judge refuses to deport black poet

CHICAGO (R) — An American judge has refused to deport black South African poet Dennis Brutus, saying his life would be endangered if he were forced to return to his homeland.

Mr. Brutus called the decision a "blow against racism" and "a very clear statement that the people of the United States support the fight against apartheid." Judge Irving Schwartz of the federal immigration court ruled against the U.S. government in its two-year-old effort to force Mr. Brutus, a native of Zimbabwe, to leave the country. He said Mr. Brutus, through his widely published poems and speaking engagements, had made himself hated by the government of South Africa and was a prime target for retaliation should he be forced to return home.

40 Ghanaians feared dead in accident

ACCRA (R) — Forty people, mostly women, are feared dead and about sixty seriously injured after Ghana's worst-ever road accident. The accident happened when an articulated truck carrying passengers crashed into a 70-seater bus Tuesday near Nsawam, about 25 kilometres from the capital on the road to Kumasi. Police helped by wardens from the Nsawam medium security prison are still freeing victims trapped under the wreckage, reports said. Police said the accident was the worst in the history of the country.

Factory gets back 'official kicker'

BRIDGEND, Wales (R) — Workers at a major car manufacturing plant in South Wales have won permission to bring back an official kicker. Management at the Ford plant at Bridgend bowed to experience and reinstated the man with the steel teacapped boots who kicks the assembly line into action when it jams, which is often. The management recently decided that kicking the machines was obsolete in a high-technology factory producing 2,300 cars a day. It fired the kicker and spent £240,000 (\$360,000) on more scientific methods — which failed to work. It finally admitted defeat when a loose nut jammed the assembly line yet again, and workers set up a cry of "give us back the kicker." A different kicker is chosen each day from a pool of about 40 qualified men. "It's not a cushy job," said union convenor Andy Richards. "He's working constantly, kicking to keep the line free."

THE WEEKEND CROSSWORD

AND PLATINUM HAIR
By Bert R. Kruse

Edited by Herb Ettenson

ACROSS

- 1 Attract
- 2 Comforter
- 11 League
- 12 Forward
- 17 Drive
- 18 Blood frigid
- 20 Like stanton
- 21 Fastened firmly
- 24 Yen
- 25 Poker play
- 26 Made angry
- 28 Source of pol
- 29 Daylight
- 30 Games
- 31 Frightening
- 32 Immediately
- 33 Edgy
- 35 Garland
- 36 Curse
- 37 Following

DOWN

- 1 Formidable
- 2 Grade
- 3 Residue
- 4 Reporter's
- 5 Query
- 6 More cautious
- 7 Old Norse
- 8 School subj.
- 9 Risen
- 10 Devote
- 11 Employee
- 12 Somewhat tart
- 13 Utmost of the screen
- 14 Human weakness
- 15 Ancient Semitic deity
- 16 Vilest
- 18 More succinct
- 20 Lonesome singer
- 21 Shore bird
- 22 Means of access
- 23 Breathing
- 24 Lived it up
- 25 Cyren deniged
- 26 Rhine tributary
- 27 Lala Greek
- 28 Magnate
- 29 Difficult age
- 30 Talk interminably
- 31 Big name in industry
- 32 One who takes orders
- 34 Fables
- 35 Pan's ship
- 36 Hat site

19 X 19, by Adam Christopher

ACROSS

- 1 Auto
- 2 Walk through
- 3 white
- 4 Discharge
- 5 Elec. units
- 6 Ridge of baseball farm
- 7 Lullaby
- 8 Consumer
- 9 Ralph
- 10 Buttery
- 11 Leftist
- 12 Edgar — Poe
- 13 Author A. A.
- 14 Location
- 15 Fathomed

DOWN

- 1 Eerie
- 2 Incarnation
- 3 Order
- 4 Satellite
- 5 Amphitheater
- 6 Soil
- 7 Intuitive
- 8 Leftist
- 9 Edgar — Poe
- 10 Author A. A.
- 11 Location
- 12 Fathomed

13 Legislative

14 Street

15 Adjust again

16 Heels

17 Sign

18 Sailing girl

19 View

20 Big cat

21 Ancient galley

22 Records

23 Shoe grippers

24 Through

25 Pronoun

26 Antenna part

27 Discharge

28 Curatin ty-

29 Local poet

30 Orders

31 Denwit

32 Hopeless ones

33 Additional

34 Preverboise

35 Ven Greek

36 Ruler in India

37 Partywist

38 Actor Michael

39 One — line

40 Wire measure

41 Scales

42 Orders

43 Denwit

44 Hopeless ones

45 Additional

46 Preverboise

47 Ven Greek

48 Ruler in India

49 Partywist

50 Actor Michael

51 One — line

52 Wire measure

53 Scales

54 Orders

55 Denwit

56 Hopeless ones

57 Additional

58 Preverboise

59 Ven Greek

60 Ruler in India

61 Partywist

62 Actor Michael

63 One — line

64 Wire measure

65 Scales

66 Orders